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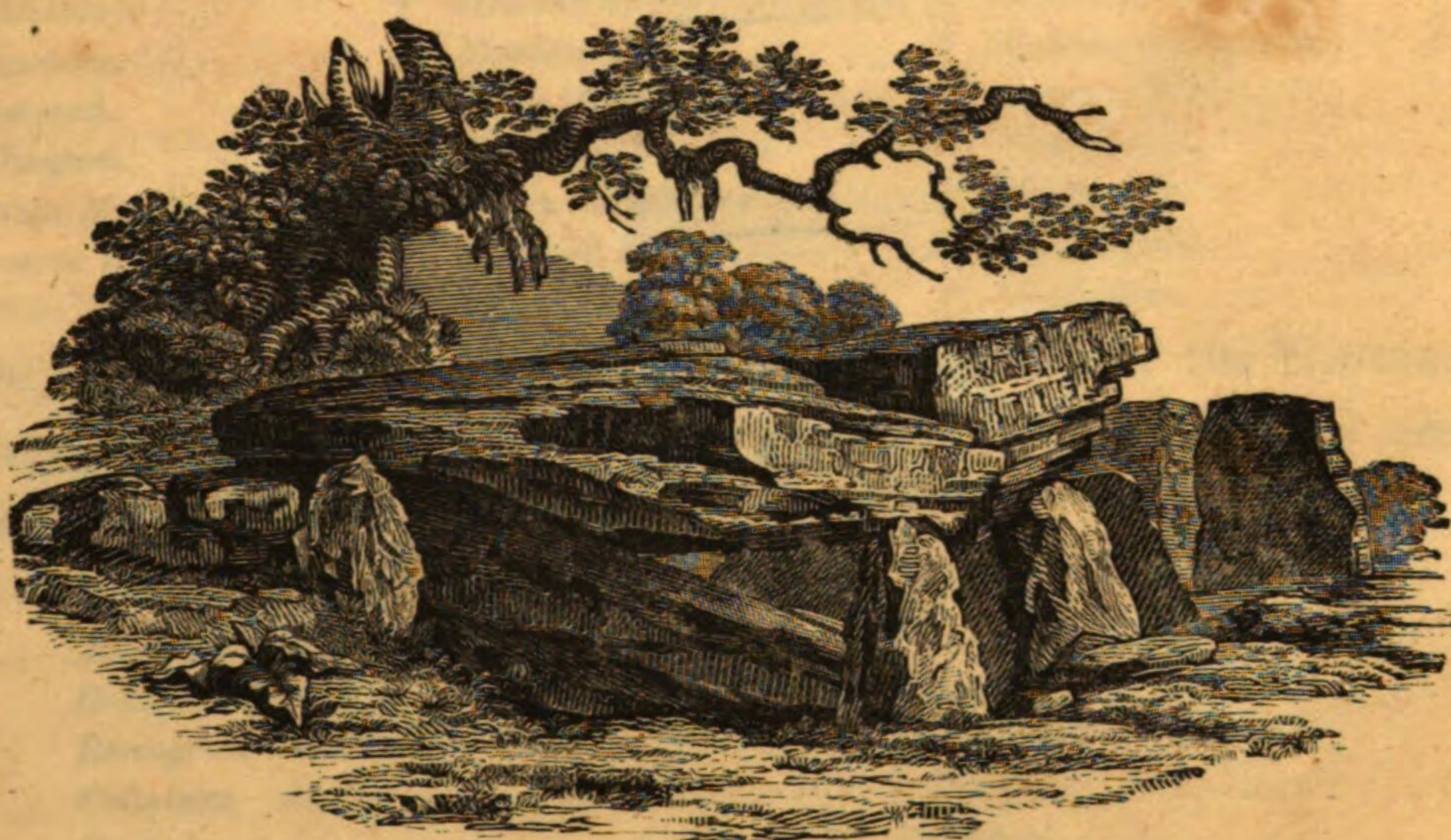
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COLLECTIONS
TOWARDS THE
History and Antiquities
OF THE
COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

By JOHN DUNCUMB, A. M.

Terra antiqua, potens armis atque ubere glebæ.—VIRG. ÆNEID.

PART I. OF VOL. II.



HEREFORD:

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1812.

DESCRIPTIO

PROZELL HILFORD

BY JOHN DEWEY, A. M.



HERMANN

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1877



COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

BROXASH HUNDRED.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Hundred of BROXASH comprehends the town of Bromyard, and the following parishes:—

Amberley.	Grendon Waryn.	Stoke Lacy.
Avenbury.	Grendon Bishop.	Sutton St. Nicholas.
Bridenbury.	Helenswick, or Ullingswick.	Sutton St. Michael.
Bodenham.	Marden.	Tedston de la Mere.
Bromyard.	Ocles (Pycharde and Lyre).	Tedston Wafre.
Collington.	Pencomb.	Thornbury.
Cowarn Magna.	Sapey superior.	Whitbourn.
Cowarne Parva.	Stanford Bishop.	Withington.
Felton.	Stoke Bliss.	WolfreLOW.

Of these, several were uncultivated at the time of the Norman Conquest;* and those below-mentioned were thus disposed and named in the Survey of Domesday Book:

A. D.
1066.

IN PLEGELIET HUND.

<i>Awenburi & Hopetune</i>	- - - - -	Avenbury and Hopton.
<i>Bridenberie</i>	- - - - -	Bridenbury.
<i>Bromgerbe</i>	- - - - -	Bromyard.
<i>Colintune</i>	- - - - -	Collington.
<i>Grenedene</i>	- - - - -	Grendon.
<i>Stanford</i>	- - - - -	Stanford.
<i>Stoches</i>	- - - - -	Stoke Lacy.
<i>Torneberie</i>	- - - - -	Thornbury.
<i>Ulferlau</i>	- - - - -	WolfreLOW.

* Waste fuerunt.—*Domesday Book.*

INTRODUCTION.

IN TORNELAUS HUND.

<i>Acle</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ocle.
<i>Amburlege</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Amberley.
<i>Bodeham</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bodenham.
<i>Feltone</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Felton.
<i>Ullingwick</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Helenswick or Ullingswick.
<i>Widdingtune and Tingehalle</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Withington and Thingehill.

IN GREITREWES HUND.

<i>Maurdine</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Marden.
<i>Sutune</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sutton.

IN RADELAU HUND.

<i>Cuure</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Cowarn.
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The parish of Edwin-Loach, situated four miles north, and that of Moreton-Jeffries, five miles south-west, from the town of Bromyard, are wholly insulated by this hundred, although Edwin is a part of Worcestershire, and Moreton a part of the hundred of Radlow. This separation of lands belonging to the same county or district is not peculiar to these parts alone,* but seems to occur here with more than usual frequency. Fuller, noticing this circumstance, desires "some-one to satisfie him, why so many shreds or parcels of lands, especially in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, are cut out off from those counties in situation, yea, are surrounded with other shires, yet belong to them (the former) in jurisdiction, being accounted members thereof."—In reply to this, it is suggested, that possibly in the division of the kingdom into counties by Alfred, such Lords who resided within the district which was to form a certain shire, contrived that all their neighbouring lands should belong to that shire: for the Saxon laws, although certainly good, had not provided a facility of punishing crimes,

A. D.
885.

* Parochial districts are still more frequently detached in this manner, an instance of which will be noticed in the Collections for Avenbury, in this Hundred.

when the perpetrators escaped out of the immediate jurisdiction in which they were committed. Thus Camden relates, from an old MS. belonging to the church of Worcester, that “ Edric de Streona, who, under Canute, “ governed the whole kingdom, as Vice-roy, adjoined the Sherifdom of Winchelcomb (which was then an entire sherifdom) unto the shire of Gloucester;” and in consequence, there still remain, as parts and appendages of the county of Gloucester, several tracts of lands surrounded by Warwick and Oxford shires. Thus also, Aulston, Blockley, Cuttesden, Evenlade, Toddington, and Washbourn, all situated within the verge of other counties, continue nevertheless to be parcels of Worcestershire at this time; whilst, on the other hand, the parish of Rochford, which is surrounded by Worcestershire, and that of Farlow, inclosed by Shropshire; Lytton, by Radnorshire; and the Futhog, by Monmouthshire—still form parts of the County of Hereford.*

Few other subjects of general remark have been met with relative to this Hundred. The parish of Sutton contains the site of the palace of Offa, King of Mercia; and that of Thornbury gave birth to Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, the unfortunate favourite of Elizabeth. These circumstances, however, will be more properly detailed in the Parochial Collections. The Introduction is therefore concluded with the following Copy of a Survey of the Hundred, taken under the authority of Parliament, after the death of Charles I. by Commissioners appointed to dispose of the possessions of the crown.

A. D.
1652.

* Mon. Ang. 134.

" *A SURVEY of the Hundred of Broxash, with the Rights, Members, and Appurtenances thereof, in the County of Hereford, late Parcel of the Possessions of CHARLES STUART, late King of England, made and taken by us, whose Names are hereunto subscribed, by virtue of a Commission granted unto us by the Honourable the Trustees appointed by Act of Commons assembled in Parliament, for Sale of the Honours, Manors, and Lands, heretofore belonging to the late King, Queen, and Prince, under their hands and seals:—*

£. s. d.

" All that certain money and common fine silver, payable by the several townships and villages within the Hundred of Broxash, in the County of Hereford, payable at the courts leet and law days, holden for the said hundred, at Michaelmas and Easter, yearly, by the constables and inhabitants thereof, according to ancient custom and usage, as by the particulars hereafter set down, doth and may fully appear to be per ann. - - - - - 12 14 2

" The courts leet and law day fines and amerciaments of courts, waifs, estrays, deodands, felons' goods, goods of felons of themselves, of fugitives, and condemned persons, and all other royalties, privileges, powers, jurisdictions, profits, commodities, advantages, and appurtenances, to the jurisdiction and royalty thereof belonging, or in any wise appertaining, together with the profits of the county court arising out of the said hundred, we do estimate to be worth *communibus annis* - 13 6 8

Sum Total - - - £ 26 0 10

The common fine silver is thus payable at Easter and Michaelmas:

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.					
WolfreLOW	-	-	-	1	1	0	Rosemaund and Burhope	-	-	0	3	6
Thornbury	-	-	-	1	1	0	Burhope	-	-	0	3	6
Stoke Bliss	-	-	-	0	7	6	Felton (cum Thingehill)	-	-	0	13	6
Collington	-	-	-	0	7	0	Pychard	-	-	0	13	6
Wackington	-	-	-	0	7	0	Tedston Wafre	-	-	0	3	6
Rowden	-	-	-	0	1	0	Rowberry	-	-	0	3	6
Avenbury	-	-	-	0	13	4	Maund Bryan, Bradfield, and					
Stanford	-	-	-	0	5	4	Heath	-	-	0	3	6
Stoke Lacy	-	-	-	1	11	6	Sutton Freene	-	-	0	3	6
Pencomb	-	-	-	2	13	4	Whitechurch	-	-	0	3	6
Grendon (cum Membris)	-	-	-	0	8	0	Little Cowarn	-	-	0	7	0
Red Field	-	-	-	0	3	6	Great Cowarn	-	-	0	6	8
Redman Forges	-	-	-	0	3	6						

" *Memorand.*—The court leets, &c. for the said hundred are holden in the parish of Cowarne Parva.*

* The site is still called Broxash.

“ The constables and inhabitants, and all the resiants in the several townships and villages in the said hundred, do owe suit to the said courts, and to essoign; and twenty-four able persons are summoned as a jury to serve at the said leets.

“ If two householders of every the said villages and townships that owe suit to the said courts do appear, they save the amerciaments for that township and village for which they appear; but upon the default of the appearance of these two, the whole township or village are amerced.

“ The two inhabitants aforementioned appearing, are sworn for their several townships and villages, and do present all defaults in appearances, and all annuissances, and other things presentable, in the name of that township or village, unto the steward of the court; and the said steward transmits all such presentments unto the jury, who ratify or alter the said presentments, as they find cause.

“ The jury do present all annuissances, and other things, inquirable in at the leet, and also all waifs, estrays, deodands, and other casualties, happening in the several townships and villages in the said hundred, which are to be levied and seized by the bailiff of the hundred, or other officers, according to custom or command, and a presentment and account given thereof at the next leet, or sooner, as occasion requires.

“ All amerciaments and fines imposed at the said courts are usually affeared by two of the said jury, the one chosen and named by the steward of the courts, the other by the residue of the said jury, and afterward by two justices of the peace for the said county, and signed by them, and levied accordingly.

“ The steward and bailiff of the said hundred and courts are only *pro tempore*, by the appointment of the sheriff of the said county.

“ *Memorand.*—There is a monthly court, called the County Court, or Sheriff’s Turn Court, holden for all the hundreds in the said county for trial of actions under 40s. according to custom, which said courts are usually kept in the shire-hall, in Hereford; but before the wars, were holden in Hereford Castle.

“ The profits thereof arise out of the several hundreds that are suitors; we have comprehended the profits thereof arising out of this hundred in the valuation of the royalties aforesaid.

“ The lords of divers lordships and manors ought to attend the said courts and be assistant in judgement there, either in person, or by sufficient deputies, and are amerciable upon defaults.

“ This SURVEY was perfected this 13th Dec. 1652, by us,

JEREMIE BAINES.
JOHN FISKE.
SAMUEL COTTMAN.
JOHN HADDOCKE.

“ *Sold Dec. 14, 1652, to Gabriel Taylor.*”

N. B. These annual fee-farm rents, common fines, and other rents, payable to the Crown out of various manors, townships, parishes, and precincts, in the several hundreds of this county, were originally accounted for by the successive Sheriffs. On the occasion mentioned in the survey, they were purchased by Gabriel Taylor; but the sale being deemed illegal, after the restoration of the Stuart family to the throne, the whole were placed in the hands of trustees, appointed by the Act of Parliament, and Sir William Haward and Sir John Talbot, knights, two of the said trustees, conveyed them, Oct. 21, 11 William III. (A. D. 1699,) to Richard Adney, esq. in trust for John Lord Somers, and they have since remained in that noble family.

PARISH OF AMBERLEY.

AMBERLEY is bounded on the west by Marden, on the north-west and north by Bodenham, on the north-east by Felton, and on the south by Withington. According to MSS. in the Harleian Collection, Amberley belonged at a very early date to the Monastery of Evesham; for which it is stated to have been procured, with Willersley, in the hundred of Stretford, by *Egwin*, or *Edwin*, Bishop of Worcester, about A. D. 714. Ten pounds *per annum*, arising from the revenues of the church of Amberley, are said to have been appropriated towards the fabric of that of Evesham, with the adjoining cloisters, &c. Twenty-three shillings were also deducted from the profits of the fish-pool at Amberley, and applied towards the support of the kitchen of the monastery: and in case of the failure of payment, the Abbot is represented to have had the power to shut up not only the church, but the houses at Amberley.* In support of this statement, reference is made to the *Monasticon Anglicanum*; but on a careful examination of that work, the present inquirer is of opinion, that the place there alluded to, is Ombresley (anciently Ambresle), which is situated in Worcestershire, and was given to the Abbey of Evesham about the time above-mentioned.

A. D.
714.

At the Norman Conquest, Amberley was granted to *Ansfrid de Cormelies*, who, as his name imports, was a companion of the Conqueror on his expedition to England. One † hide of land only paid the geld or tax, and was worth twenty-shillings.

1066.

* Harl. MS. 5223.

† A Hide of land is said by *Spelman*, in his Glossary, to have consisted of 160 acres.

“ In Tornelaus Hund.*

Terra Ansfridi de Cormeiles.

A. D.
1086.

“ Id. Ansfridus tenet Amburlege; Ricardus de eo: Ibi I hida geld:
“ In Dnio, 1 Carucata, † et 3 Servi et 1 Bordarius.‡ Valuit et
“ valet 20 Sol.”

1141.

In the reign of the Empress Maud, *Richard* de Cormeiles, a descendant of the above, held Amberley; and amongst other grants to her favourite, Milo Fitz-Walter, on the occasion of creating him Earl of Hereford, § she gave him the adjacent manor of Marden, with the services of this Richard de Cormeiles, and several others, with their respective fees. After the success of King Stephen, Amberley went with Marden in the reversion of the latter to the

1244.

Crown; and Henry III. in the 28th year of his reign, granted free warren in Amberley to Alexander de Seculer. Afterwards, Walter de Freene, who married Alice, daughter and heiress of this Alexander, claimed the said warren, by virtue of the grant above-mentioned,

1292.

and was allowed the same by the judges itinerant, 20 E. I. Free warren was next granted here to Richard de Monmouth, by Edward III. in these words:—“ Rex eisdem &c. &c. Salutem: Sciatis nos de gratiâ nostrâ speciali concessisse et hâc cartâ nostrâ confirmasse dilecto valetto || nostro Ricardo de Monemewe, quod ipse et heredes sui in perpetuum habeant liberam warrenam in omnibus dominicis et terris suis de Rowle-Regis in com: Staff: Amburleie

* Domesday.

† 144 acres.—*Spelman*.

‡ The *Bordarii* were those who held lands by servile tenures; such as looking after the lord's horses, making his hay, &c.

§ Dugd. Bar. Vol. 1. 537.

|| The word *Valet* was anciently applied to Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, or young men of quality.

in Com: Hereford: et de Grauntesete in Com: Cantab: Dum tamen terre ille non fuerunt infra metas foreste nostre, ita quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandum in eis vel ad aliquid capiendum, quod ad warrenam pertineat, sine licentiâ et voluntate ipsius Ricardi vel heredum suorum, super forisfacturam nostram decem librarum.—Quare volumus et firmiter percepimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod predictus Ricardus et heredes sui, in perpetuum habeant liberam warrenam in omnibus dominicis et terris suis predictis. His testibus, Venerab: patribus, Hugone Lincoln: episcopo, cancellario nostro; Rogero, Covent: et Lich: episcopo; Johanne, comite Cornub: fratre nostro carissimo; Olivero de Ingham, Willo de Monte-acuto; Johanne Mautravers, senescallo Hospitii nostri; et aliis.”*

Previous to this date the family of Monmouth had possessions in the adjoining vill of Fromanton or Fromynton, for “Johannes Monemouth tenuit die quo obiit tres acras terre in Fromynton de Rege in capite per magnam serjeantiam, et per servitium 12 denar: ad curiam Regis solvend: pro omni servitio.”†

A. D.
1331.

The Lingen Family probably succeeded that of Monmouth in the possession of Amberley, soon after the grant of free warren recited above. Of these, “Philip Lyngeyn” was inserted amongst the gentry of Herefordshire, in the list returned by sworn commissioners, 12 Hen. VI. ‡ The Lingens had very extensive property, in Stoke Edith, Marden, Sutton, and other parts of the county of Hereford, and will be more particularly noticed in the collections for those parishes.

1433.

* Ex rot. cart. 4 Edw. III.

† Compend. Eschæet. 3 Edw. II.

‡ Fuller's Worthies. Fol. 42.

A. D.
1554.

By the seventh article of the Inquisition, taken on the death of John Lingen, esq. in the second year of the reign of Queen Mary, it appeared that besides the manors of Sutton-Overcourt, Sutton-Freene, Sutton Garnons, Over-Fenn, &c. he died seized also of five hundred acres of arable land, two hundred acres of meadow, three hundred acres of pasture, twenty acres of wood, and four pounds annual rent, together with twenty messuages, and two water-mills, in Sutton, Marden, Bodenham, Amberley, &c.

1587.

These several lands, &c. were conveyed by the said John Lingen to John Harper and William Bourghill, gentlemen, and to their heirs and assigns for ever, in trust, for the use of John the son of Isabella, the wife of the said John Lingen. At this time, the adjacent manor of Marden was held by John Throckmorton, esq. who was succeeded by his son Francis; and John, son of John Lingen dying, left one daughter Jane, married to William Shelley. Francis Throckmorton and William Shelley were both attainted of high treason, 28 Eliz. being implicated with the Spanish Minister Mendoza, in the plot to dethrone Elizabeth, in favour of the Queen of Scots. They were both executed, and their property was confiscated to the crown. The manor of Marden was next granted to Thomas Rowlands, of Haddenham, in the Isle of Ely, Esq. for a term of years, the remainder of which was purchased by Thomas Earl Coningsby, A. D. 1717. The lands in Amberley, &c. which had been conveyed to John Harper, and William Bourghill, were now in possession of the Harpers, and other families: but Earl Coningsby, conceiving them to be part of the Demesne Lands, &c. of the Manor of Marden, and as such that they ought to have been confiscated by the attainder of Shelley, and thus to have passed into his hands with the said manor, compiled a laborious history of

Marden, in which he ably supported his pretensions, and at length served ejectments against the several families holding any part of the above mentioned lands. Not meeting with the success he expected, most of the copies of the history of Marden, which formed a folio volume of seven hundred pages, were destroyed: a few, however, escaped, and are still to be met with in the libraries of Hampton Court, Hom-Lacy, &c. They contain authenticated extracts and copies of inquisitions and other records, the originals of which are either scarce, or not to be procured, and as such they are considered as very valuable.

The manor of Amberley, was not involved in this contention, the Weston family, of Sutton-place, near Guildford, in Surrey, having previously been in possession.—Of these, John Weston (who was Son of Dame Grace Weston), and Richard his son sold this manor to Mr. Hugh Rodd, of Hereford, in the year 1672. Mr. Rodd, re-sold it 16th of August, A. D. 1700, with lands tithes, &c. to Mrs. Mary Prince, executrix of the Honourable Jane Scudamore, of Cradock, in this county, to the purposes of whose will, the rents were applied under a decree of the Court of Chancery, dated 13 William III. Under this arrangement, Mrs. Mary Prince, above-mentioned (who was aunt to the last Lord Scudamore), purchased for the consideration of £2100. all that the manor or reputed manor of Amberley, with the messuage or dwelling-house of Amberley, and also the rectory and tithes of Amberley,—and conveyed them to trustees, in order that the rents and profits of the said manor and premises, should be annually distributed on the 21st February, at the Tolsey, in the city of Hereford, (being the anniversary of the testatrix's death.)

A. D.
1702.

to ten poor decayed men, according to her own discretion during her life; and afterwards by James, Lord Viscount Scudamore, his heirs and assigns for ever.

But the amount of these rents and profits proving unequal to a donation of ten pounds to each of the ten men, "by reason of the great taxes, and other contingencies," Mrs. Prince, was directed to purchase other premises, and to apply so much of their rents, as would extend the charity to the above-mentioned sum of ten pounds each, free of all deductions, and paying the residue to Lord James Scudamore, for his own uses.—This second purchase was made in the parishes of West Hide, and Cowarne-magna, at the price of £985. The decree in Chancery further provided that "ten pounds should be paid annually at the said Tolsey, to the minister who shall read the divine service on every Lord's day, or oftener, in the chapel of Amberley, and administer the holy sacrament on Easter-day, Whitsunday, and Christmas-day, in every year";—Also two pieces of gold, called "*Guineyes*", or the value thereof, to the chaplain of Amberley, for preaching a sermon in the said chapel, on the 21st February, in every year, and five pounds annually to a person for collecting and managing the rents, &c. This charity remains according to this arrangement; and Amberley, with this appropriation, is now held by Charles Howard, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal of England, &c. &c. by virtue of his marriage A. D. 1771, with Frances, sole heiress of the Scudamores, of Hom-Lacy.

During the siege of Hereford, by the Scotch Army in 1645, (as detailed in the first volume of these Collections) the adjoining country was laid under heavy contributions for the support of the be-

siegers; and in the year 1650, a small pamphlet was published, containing (as stated in the title), "A true and impartial account of the plunderings, losses, and sufferings, of the county of Hereford, by the Scottish army during their siege, before the city of Hereford, A. D. 1645, since brought in by the country in writing, by Miles Hill, gent.—London: printed by E. G. for L. C. 1650". According to this authority, the inhabitants of Amberley, sustained on this occasion a loss of £66. but great allowance is to be made for the heat of party at the time; and some, perhaps, for the inducements which the sufferers might have had to exaggerate the amount, through the hopes of receiving an increased compensation.

Amberley, contains only three houses rated to the window duties, and four cottages; the number of inhabitants is forty-nine: the soil is a clay, approaching to a red colour; and the whole parish comprizes only four hundred acres.

An act of parliament for enclosing lands in this and the adjoining parishes of Marden, Withington, Sutton St. Michael, and Sutton St. Nicholas, received the royal assent in the year 1808.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

The tithes of Amberley, belong successively to the proprietors of the estate, who allow a stipend to a chaplain to perform the service. The bishop or ordinary, has no jurisdiction within its limits.*

* The Archbishop of Canterbury, formerly possessed fifty-six of these *Peculiars*, each having jurisdiction within itself, and so exempt from the ordinary and Bishops' Court.—*Blounts M. S.*

In the reign of Edw. I. a voluntary contribution was made throughout England, to assist the King in his wars against Scotland and France.—The particulars of this contribution are thus detailed in the *Nonarum*, published by the authority of parliament in the year 1800.

“ 14 Edw. I.—The prelates, earls, barons, and all the commons of the realme, willingly of one assent and good will, having regard to the will which their Leige Lord hath toward them, and to the great travailes that he hath made and sustained as well in his wars of Scotland, as against the parts of France and other places, and to the good will which he hath, to travaile to keepe his realme, and maintayne his wars, and to purchase his rights—they have granted to him the ninth lamb, the ninth fleece, and the ninth sheaf, to be taken by two years then next to come. And of cities and boroughs, the very ninth part of all their goods and chattles to be taken and levied by lawful and reasonable tax, by the same two years, in aid of the purposes above-mentioned. And in right of merchants foreign, which dwell not in the cities and boroughs, and also of other people, who dwell in forests and wastes, and all other that live not of their gain nor store, shall be set lawfully to the fifteenth,” for the same purposes. “ And it is not the intent of the King nor of other great men, nor of the commons, that by this grant of fifteens the poor boraile* people, nor other that live of their bodily travaile, shall be comprized within the tax of the said fifteens, but shall be discharged, &c.”—Commissioners were appointed to carry this tax into effect, and they were directed to take inquisitions on the oath of in-

* *Boraile* is perhaps derived from the old English word *Boor*, a labouring man.

habitants in every parish. These inhabitants returned the true value of the ninth of corn, wool and lambs,—then the amount of the ancient tax—and afterwards, the causes were assigned why the ninth did not amount to the tax, viz, that within the valuation or tax of the church, there were other articles included beside corn, wool and lambs; such as the *Dos* or Glebe, with the tithes of hay, and other tithes. The commissioners were the Prior of Hereford, Roger Chaundos, Richard de Pembrugge, Philip de Clanefowe, and Stephen Deveroys: and from their return it appears that the church or chapel of Amberley, was not charged to the ancient tax, and that the ninth lamb, fleece and sheaf, belonging to it, were worth ten shillings only, “et non plus quia non est ibi nisi mortuaria unius capellani pro hebdomada.”

Amberley church was not charged to the tenth granted to the same king, under Pope Nicholas's valuation A. D. 1292, as a subsidy towards defraying the expenses of the croisades of that time.

The church or chapel is a small and inferior building, consisting of a nave and chancel.—A bell is suspended in an open arch of a wall, constructed for that purpose at the West-end of the roof. There is a tradition that it once had a steeple and several bells, but that the latter were stolen by an itinerant tinker.

On the north side of the chancel window, a stone frame about seven feet high, and two feet wide, is affixed to the wall; and on the south side of the same window, a carved pedestal projects from it: the one was probably designed to enclose a portrait, and the other to support the effigies of some saint or religious person. A *lavacrum*, or basin for holy water (according to the customs of the Roman Catholic church,) remains under a pointed arch, within the South wall of the chancel; and a second projects about fourteen

inches from the wall, near the South door of the church. The fol-
inscriptions remain:—

ON FLAT STONES IN THE CHANCEL.

Elizabeth wife of Robert Berrington,* gent.
died 18th Nov. 1684.

Walter Mayos, died 27th Jan. 1753, aged
82.—Mary his wife, died 23rd May, 1748,
aged 76.

Elizabeth wife of Thomas Goodyere, *gent.*
died 12th Dec. 1628.

North wall of the Church.

Elizabeth wife of William Perks, died 8th
Jan. 1749, aged 59.

Walter Mayos, jun. died 24th March, 1769,
aged 62.—Ann his wife, 17th July, 1780,
aged 69.

Wm. Pitt, *gent.* died 3rd March, 1778,
aged 67.—Martha his wife, 16th Dec.
1774, aged 71.

Flat stone in the Church.

Ann wife of Thomas Price, died 18th Jan.
1763, aged 77.—Also, Thos. Price, died
15th Feb. 1763, aged 80.

PARISH OF AVENBURY.

AVENBURY is bounded on the North, by Bromyard; on the
South-West, by Stoke Lacy; on the South, by Stanford Bishop;
and on the East, by Suckley, in the County of Worcester.

After the Norman Conquest, Avenbury belonged to Nigel, the
Physician, and was thus surveyed in Domesday; “ In Plegeliet
Hund: Terra Nigelli Medici. Id. Nigel: tenet Aweneburi:
Spirites enuit: ibi 6 Hidæ geld: Ir Dnio sunt 3 Caruc: et 4
Servi, et 22 Villarii, et 2 Presbyteri, et 1 Bordarius cum 12 Caruc:
Ibi Molendinum† nil redd: Valet et valuit 100 Sol.”

A. D.
1086.

It does not appear, who immediately succeeded Nigel; but in the
Reign of Henry III. Avenbury was thus held by a Family to
whom it gave Name.

1207.

* The Berringtons rented lands here, under the Harpers.

† A Mill still remains near the Church, and probably on the Site of that alluded to.

“ In Avenbury duce Hidœ, quas *Walterus de Avenbury* tenet pro uno feodo de Comite Hereford: de honore de Kington, de veteri feoffamento, per servicium militare.”*

In the preface concerning the service of the Church, compiled in the reign of Edward VI. and printed in the liturgy, mention is made of a “ *Missale secundum usum Hereford:*” which prevailed in several churches before the Reformation, although that which was generally adopted, was the Salisbury Missale, of which several editions have been printed. That of Hereford was written on vellum, and before the service was given a list of the Obits of several benefactors to the church, whose anniversaries were celebrated in it; the names of the principal benefactors, being written in red characters, and the others in black. The dates were not added, but the commemorations are generally confined to the period between Hen. I. (A. D. 1100) and Ed. II. (A. D. 1307). —The M. S. was compiled about the time of Ed. III. and printed in a history of the church of Hereford, small octavo, 1717. It contained the following entry in red letters, relative to the Avenbury family:—

“ October habet dies xxx. Luna xxix.

“ *Obitus Magistri Egidie de Avenbiri*, quondam Decani Herefordiensis, qui pro possessionibus, viribus et libertatibus Decani et capituli Herefordie, adipiscendis, conservandis, &c. magnos sustinuit labores, et quamplures fecit expensas: Ipse etiam ecclesiam de Bodington, thesaurario Herefordiensis Ecclesiæ, appropriari fecit.”

Giles de Avenbury, (also Dean of Hereford, A. D. 1271,) and Roger and Walter of the same name, were witnesses to a deed

* Lib: Feod: Hen. III. Harl. M. S. 5223.

- A. D.
1271. between Cecilia, wife of Roger de Monmouth, and Henry of Monmouth, relative to some lands in the parish of Sutton.* *Osbertus*
1277. de A. presented to the church of Avenbury, A. D. 1277.

Of this family, also, *Maud* de Avenbury was second wife of Humphrey de Bohun, fifth of that name, Earl of Hereford and Essex. He was slain at Borough Bridge, A. D. 1321, and Maud his relict, died at Sorges in Gascony, 8th October, and was there
1328. buried. Her remains were seven years afterwards brought to England, by her son John then Earl of Hereford, and interred in the abbey of Llanthony, in Monmouthshire, near those of her husband. The family of Avenbury probably became extinct, or quitted their residence in Herefordshire, soon after this period, as none of that name are included in the list of the gentry of this county, returned by the commissioners appointed for that purpose, 12 Henry VI. They appear to have been succeeded in this
1433. Manor by the *Rous* family, of whom Alianora le R. presented to the church, as early as A. D. 1313.† John le Rous, who was probably her son, was Sheriff of Herefordshire, 6 and 7 Edw. III. he was also one of the representatives for this county, in several parliaments during the same reign.

A branch of the *Berrington* family were soon afterwards in possession of Avenbury, and other property in this vicinity. Their residence was in the Parish of Cowarne Magna, in the Collections for which, they will be more particularly noticed. In the reign of
1558. Elizabeth, the manor of Avenbury continued to be held of the crown by military service, and of the honour of Kington:
“Anno 1 Eliz. manerium de Avebury, tenetur de Domina Regina

* Liber niger Wigmore, Bibl. Harl.

† M. S. Selas Taylor, Bibl. Harl.

per servitium militare de honore de Kynton.”* About the middle of the seventeenth century, the Berringtons disposed of their property here, and Avenbury was purchased by the Stillingfleet family, of whom Edward S. was consecrated Bishop of Worcester, A. D. 1689. He was succeeded by his son James, who was dean of Worcester, and left Edward his son and heir, a prebendary of the same church, who was also succeeded by his son Edward, who left one daughter and heiress, Elizabeth Sarah, who had the misfortune to be deaf and dumb from her birth, but who married (A. D. 1798) John Cayley, esq. a Yorkshire gentleman, labouring under the same calamities; Mrs. Cayley died A. D. 1807, leaving one son, Edward Stillingfleet Cayley, and three daughters, who are now wards of chancery, and joint proprietors of Avenbury manor, estates, &c.

HOPTON, a place of some antiquity, is situated in the southwest part of Avenbury, and belonged after the Norman Conquest to William, son of the Norman, a companion of the conquerors. It is thus noticed in Domesday: “In Plegeliet Hund: Terra Willi: Filii Normanni. Idem Wills: tenet Hopetune, et Richerius de eo; Brismar tenuit, et quo volebat ire, poterat: Ibi 1 hida et una quinta geld: In dnio est una carucata, et 3 villarii, et 2 bordarii cum 3 carucatis, et 4 servi. T. R. E. (Tempore Regis Edwardi,) valebat 30 sol: and modo tant.” The *Solers* family afterwards possessed Hopton, and in the reign of Hen. III. it was estimated at one hide only, and held of Hugh de Kilpeck by Margery Solers, of the honour of Kilpeck, by military service; “In

A. D.
1086.

* Bibl. Harl. 760.—See Ecclesiastical Account.

A. D.
1216.

Hopton una hida, quam Margeria Solers tenet de Hugone de Kylpek, de honore de Kylpek, per serv: militare de veteri feoffamento.”*

From this circumstance, Hopton acquired and still retains the additional appellation of *Solers*, a family which also gave name to the Parish of *Solers Hope*, in the Hundred of Greytree; in the Collections for which, they will be more particularly noticed. The Solers were succeeded by a Branch of the *Hoptons* of Canon Frome, in the Hundred of Radlow. The first Hopton who is mentioned of this place in the Heraldic Visitation is *Richard*, son of *William*, son of *Nicholas*. William married, Margaret, daughter and one of the Co-Heiresses of John Hewyn or Heven, of Heven in this county, and Cleobury in Shropshire. They had issue, *Richard* of Hopton, who married, Joan, daughter of John Langford, and had issue, (besides daughters) 1. *John*, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Sharpe, and 2d. *William*, of Hopton, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Fox of Ludlow. William had issue seven sons, and one daughter; viz. Richard, Edward, Thomas, George, Charles, Edmund, Michael, and Ann, wife of Richard Bishop, of Shropshire. *Richard*, the eldest son, married Ann, daughter and Heiress of Thomas Walter, about the middle of the sixteenth century: He probably sold Hopton, *William Nicolettes* being in possession of it soon after the above date. Further particulars of the ancient family of the Hoptons, will be given in the Collections for the parish of Canon Frome, where they still reside.—William Nichollettes, was succeeded by his son *Richard*, who died, A. D. 1626, and was interred

1550.

1626.

* Liber Feod: Hen. III. ut prius.

at Stoke Lacy: the vicinity of Hopton to that church, accounts for this circumstance. Gilbert Nichollettes, esq. held Hopton Solers, in the reign of Charles II.—Another Gilbert Nichollettes, was buried at Frome Bishop, 29th November, 1737; and a third of the same name was also interred there, 4th June, 1778. About this date, Hopton was sold to John Clarke, of Barnstable in Devonshire, esq.; who sold it to Mr. James Cooke, who again sold it to Mr. Allison, an eminent merchant of Liverpool, who now enjoys it.

A. D.
1670.

The OKES, a Township belonging to this Parish, but wholly detached from the other parts of it, is situated about two miles, west north-west, from Bromyard; being bounded on the south and east, by the township of Winslow, and on the west and north, by the parish of Birdenbury. In the thirteenth century, one part of the *Okes*, consisted of nine messuages, sixty acres of arable land, two of meadow, one of pasture, and one and an half of wood. This was then held of the crown by *Agnes de Blerhesdon*, by the service of finding one horse towards conducting the King's treasure from Hereford to London, for which she was to be allowed twelve-pence per day in going, and nothing on the return.

1296.

“Anno. 24 Ed. 1.—*Agnes de Blerhesdon, tenet de rege in capite, quasdam terras et tenementa in Okes et parvâ Collayn,* per servitium conducendi thesaurum regis cum uno equo de Hereford: usque London; et habebit die in eundo 12 denarios, et redeundo nihil. Et sunt apud Okes, 9 mess: 60 acr: terræ, 2 acr: prati, 1 pasturæ, et 1½ bosci.*”†—Another part belonged

1296.

* Collington.

† Harl. M. S. 708. Compend: Eschæt:

to the *Abetots*, who were probably so called from a parish of that name in Worcestershire:

A. D.
1310.

“Anno. 3 Ed. II.—*Sibilla*, quæ fuit uxor *Abetot*, tenet de rege in capite, in le Okes juxta Bromyard, medietatem 1 mess: et 21 acr: terræ, et 6 acr: prati, et 6 solid: redditus, per servitium conducendi, &c. ut prius.”*

1327.

“Anno. 1 Ed. III.—*Ricardus de Blerhesden*, tenuit die quo obiit in dominico suo ut de feodo, apud le Okes, de rege, per servitium parvæ serjeantiæ, ad capiendum thesaurum regis, &c. (ut prius) duas partes 1 mess: 40 acr: terræ, 2 acr: prati, dimid: acr: pasturæ et 8 solid: reddit. *Johannes de Holeford* est consanguineus, et hæres ejus propinq.”†

1345.

“Anno. 18 Ed. III.—*Thomas de Holeford*, tenet de rege in capite apud le Okes juxta Bromyard per legem Angliæ, de hæreditate *Ceciliæ* quondam uxoris ejus 1 mess: 50 acr: terræ, 2 prati, bosci et 30 solid: reddit: cum pertinentibus per servitium conducendi thesaurum regis, bis in anno si fuit necessarium, sumptibus regis a castro Hereford: usque London, &c. (ut prius,) *Johannes filius predictæ Ceciliæ* est hæres.”‡—Another part of *the Okes* belonged to a family of the name of Brown, as is thus mentioned in a book of escheats in the tower of London.

1387.

“Anno. 10 R. 2.—*Willielmus Brown*, filius *Willielmi Brown*, fuit seizitus die quo obiit de uno tofto, et medietate unius carucatæ terræ cum pertinentibus in *la Okes* in Avenbury, et tenentur de rege in capite per servitium fidelitatis pro omnibus servitiis: *Stephanus filius Stephani Brown*, fratris *Willielmi*, filii *Willielmi Brown* est ejus hæres.”§

* Harl. M. S. 708. Compend: Eschæt:

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

§ Liber Eschæt: in Turr: Lond.

The Browns were a family of great respectability, during many generations. As early as the year 1326 John Brown was a representative of this shire in parliament; and in 1335, William Brown filled the same office. In 1433, John Brown, was inserted in the list of gentlemen of this county; but their pedigree not being entered in the Heraldic visitations, few particulars can be given of their alliances and descents. Their residence was at Little Frome in this parish, as will be noticed hereafter; and the name of "Anthony Brown, of Frome Parva, gent." appears in Brome's catalogue of the nobility and principal gentry of this county, in the reign of Charles II.—The last of the family were two brothers, John and Anthony, who both died young and unmarried, about the year 1760; and the Okes property was left by the will of the former to Mr. Morse, whose son Mr. William Morse now enjoys it.

LITTLE FROME, an estate in this parish claiming the privilege of a subordinate manor within the manor of Avenbury, was held during many generations by the Brown family, who resided here and have been already noticed in the account of the Okes. After the deaths of John and Anthony Brown, Little Frome was sold to a branch of the Woodhouse family, then living at Larport, in the Parish of Mordiford. A survey of the manor of Little Frome, was taken for Francis Woodhouse, jun. esq. by J. Saunders, in the year 1722; by which it appears that it was considered as coextensive with the estate, which then comprized about four hundred acres. Little Frome was afterwards sold to Mr. Richard West, whose son Mr. Edward West, is the present proprietor.

Avenbury with Hopton Solers, was assessed in the sum of £.16 7s. 9d. to the levy called ship-money, as imposed by

Charles I. A. D. 1632; and the Scottish army are stated to have exacted here a contribution of £.81 1s. 8d. towards their subsistence, whilst besieging Hereford, in the year 1645.

The soil of Avenbury is generally a red clay, and favourable to the cultivation of hops and wheat. The whole parish extends from north to south, nearly three miles, and, in the opposite direction, one mile and an half; containing in the whole three thousand acres. The number of inhabitants, returned to parliament, 41 Geo. III. was 316; and it appears by the registers, that the population has been trebled within the last one hundred and fifty years, an increase not common in this county: the amount of poor-rates, A. D. 1776, was £.103 2s. 9d. A small stream enters this parish from Bromyard; and working a mill near the church, runs into Frome Bishop, in the hundred of Radlow.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The revenues of the Church of Avenbury, with the Chapel of Bridenbury, were estimated in the ancient taxation before the reign of Edward I. at twenty-eight marks per ann. £.3 4s. 4d. were charged as a composition for the ninth lamb, the ninth fleece, and the ninth sheaf—granted as an aid to the Crown, A. D. 1286. In Pope Nicholas's taxation, which was made six years after, and which seems not to have included Bridenbury, the church of Avenbury was estimated at eighteen marks only, and contributed twenty-four shillings as a tenth of that sum. In the Liber Regis, compiled in the reign of Hen. VIII. it is valued as a vicarage, at £.7 8s. 10d. per ann:—the subsequent value shall be given hereafter.

The patronage was anciently enjoyed by the Avenbury family, of whom Osbertus de A. presented A. D. 1277.* It was soon afterwards granted with the tithes, &c. by John le Rous, to the Abbot and Convent of Dore, in the hundred of Webtree, but was forfeited from the want of the king's licence for that purpose. At the instance of Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford, &c. who had married Maud de Avenbury, Ed. I. afterwards confirmed the grant by letters patent, dated A. D. 1284, and authorized the Abbot and Convent, to appropriate the revenues to them and their successors, allowing the vicars a competent stipend. It appears however to have been a frequent complaint against the religious houses, that they made an inadequate allowance to the parochial clergy within their own appointment. In the year 1519, Bishop Booth, ordered an augmentation of the vicars salary here; and ten years after, the Abbot and Convent were directed to repair the vicarage house, and render it more commodious.

At the dissolution of religious houses, 7 Ed. VI. the tithes were rented by John Myll, esq. at £.5 6s. 8d. after deducting annual pensions of £.3 to the vicar of Avenbury, and 6s. 8d. to the choristers of the Cathedral Church of Hereford. In the year 1554, they were purchased (subject to these conditions) by John Harford, and John Farley; and the grant particularly specified a barn, which was situate about a quarter of a mile from the church, and was stiled the Abbots' barn. It was built with stone, and had the appearance of much antiquity in the year 1760, when it yielded to the pressure of time, and was substituted by another on its site.

* Bishop Cantilupe's Register.

The tithes were held during several generations, by a family of the name of Corbett, who lived at the Greave estate in this parish. In the year 1682, a suit was heard in the Exchequer, in which Thomas Kettleby, vicar of Avenbury was plaintiff, and Richard Corbett, impropiator of the tithes was defendant. The plaintiff alleged that the rectory of Avenbury being appropriated to the Abbey of Dore, a competent maintenance was reserved to the vicar by the Bishop: that the Bishop and Abbot, endowed the vicarage with the rectory house, (excepting to the Abbot, the principal chamber and the cellar, one orchard and a small house adjoining,) garden, orchard, sixty acres of land, the tithes of hay and all other small tithes—that afterwards the said rectory coming to the Crown, Edward VI. granted it to Harford and Farley, reserving all the vicarial tithes, and £.3 per ann. to be paid out of the said rectory to the vicar: that the defendant claims the said rectory, and all the lands and small tithes, and denies the vicarage to be endowed with the same or with any more than a yearly stipend of £.7 6s. 8d. and a small parcel of meadow ground, called St. Agatha's meadow.—After hearing evidence, &c. the court decided that the plaintiff ought to enjoy St. Agatha's meadow, and to receive the said stipend and arrears—and also to have the rectory house, garden, and orchard as his predecessor had; and that the house ought to be re-built by the defendant. Commissioners were accordingly appointed, and they marked out a parcel of land, for the said house in the *Lime Paddock*, lying between the highway leading from the town of Bromyard to the church of Avenbury, and claimed by the defendant. To this site for the house, was added ground for a garden and orchard, the fencing of which was esti-

mated at £.1 15s. and the house at £60. The defendant was ordered to build the same, and to convey it with the garden and orchard to the vicar of Avenbury and his successors*—which were done accordingly: the stipend was afterwards made £30.

The Lay Rectory of Avenbury now comprises 60 acres of Glebe land, the great and small tithes, and all other ecclesiastical dues of the whole parish, subject only to the payment of £.30 per ann. to the vicar, and £.23 17s. 4d. to the land tax. It was sold A. D. 1794, by Mr. John Corbett, to Ralph Cope Hopton, esq. and to Messrs. Price and Barnaby, solicitors, of Worcester. Mr. Hopton's third share, was next sold to Mr. James Wormington, of Bromyard, solicitor, who re-sold it to John Barnaby, esq. the present proprietor: and Messrs. T. Price, and Richard Barnaby, retain the remaining two-thirds.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Osbertus de Avenbury - -	1277 - -	Gilbert de Bourghill.
Alionora le Rous - -	1313 - -	Roger le Rous.
Abbot and Convent of Dore -	1320 - -	William Tokye.†
The same - - - - -	1349 - -	Peter le Smith.
The same - - - - -	1360 - -	William de Berton.
The same - - - - -	1380 - -	Walter de Blasel.
The same - - - - -	1383 - -	Thomas Webbe.
The same - - - - -	1409 - -	Walter Parker.
The same - - - - -	1411 - -	John ap Reece.
The same - - - - -	1426 - -	
The same - - - - -	1431 - -	John Alleyne.
Abbot and Convent - - -	1506 - -	{ Nicholas Baron.
		{ Ralph Hurleton.
Bishop of Hereford (by lapse) -	1510 - -	Hugh Martyn.

* Wood's Exchequer Tithe Causes, Vol. I. p. 212, and seq.

† Thomas de Bromyarde was appointed his coadjutor, A. D. 1323.

PATRONS.				A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Abbot and Convent	-	-	-	1518	Henry Smith.
The same	-	-	-	1514	John Longford.
The same	-	-	-	1528	George Berwyche.
The CROWN, (religious houses being dissolved)	-	-	}	1565	Roger Field.
The same	-	-	-	1574	Richard Hope.
					Phinees Jackson.
The Crown	-	-	-	1661	Richard Evans.
The same	-	-	-	1668	Thomas Kettelby.
The same	-	-	-	1698	John Walker.
The same	-	-	-	1713	John Jennings.
The same	-	-	-	1752	Joseph Taylor.
The same	-	-	-	1783	John Moggridge.
The same	-	-	-	1796	Richard Lloyd.

The church of Avenbury is situated on the right bank of a stream called Bromyard brook: it is dedicated to St. Mary; and comprises a nave, chancel, and tower with three bells. The entrance is on the South, with a descent of five steps.—Under the North wall of the chancel, and on a flat stone somewhat elevated above the pavement, is engraved the figure of a man in armour, having his right hand on the hilt of his sword, but no arms or inscription remain to mark its particular application. On the north wall is also a memorial of Edward, son of Thomas King, late of Cusop, who died June 4, 1802, aged 37 years. On the south wall a marble tablet is inscribed to the memory of Mr. Nathaniel Smith, late of the Brookhouse, in this parish, who died 13th of December, 1804, aged 25 years.

ON FLAT STONES WITHIN THE COMMUNION RAILS.

Richard Barnes, died 2d April, 1623.

Richard, son of John Corbett, 9th March,
1701.

_____, daughter of Thomas Corbett, of Bromyard, 24th June, 1637.
John Corbett, 1702.

ON FLAT STONES IN THE CHANCEL.

William Charlett, died 28th April, 1658,
aged 66.

William Charlett, 19th Aug. 1671, and
Mary, his wife, 7th Jan. following.
Rebecca, their daughter, 30th Sept. 1691.

Also,

Mary and Elizabeth, her sisters, 1678, and
two others, 1671.

Richard Corbett, 11th Oct. 1689, aged 47.

Jane, his widow, 25th Dec. 1698.

Penelope Whitehead, daughter of Richard
and Elizabeth Whitehead, of Stanford
Bishop, died 8th Oct. 1676.

ON FLAT STONES IN THE AISLE.

—— Charlett, 1660, aged —

—— Charlett, gent, was buried 4th April,
1682.

Sarah Charlette, widow, May, 1696.

Near the Font.

“Hic jacet corpus of Dorothey Somers, who
deceased the XVI die of Nov. A.D. 1632.”

Anthony Browne, of Little Frome, gent. 6th
Sept. 1716.

John Browne, gent. 29th Sept. 1724.

South wall of the Church.

John, son of Richard West, (of Little Frome),
died 15th January, 1801, aged 6 years.

PARISH OF BODENHAM.

BODENHAM is bounded on the south by Marden; on the south-east by Amberley and Felton; on the east by Ullingswick; on the north by Hope-under-Dynmore, and on the west by Dynmore.

The British word *Bôd*, and the Saxon *Ham*, both implying a dwelling or mansion, seem to constitute the name of Bodenham.

The far greater part of the parish is situated on the left bank of the Lugg; but the north-west angle (including the church and village) is on the opposite side of that river.

In the time of the Saxons, the manor and principal property here were held by a family derived from some of the chief of their nobles, who as usual, assumed the name of Bodenham from their possessions. Roger de Bodenham was lord in the time of Edward

the Confessor: but after the Norman conquest, the king granted two thirds of Bodenham to his companion Roger de Laci: and the portion which still remained in the Bodenham family, came to the crown in the reign of Henry III. as will be particularized hereafter.

The survey of Domesday book contains several entries relative to this extensive parish, and it shall be endeavoured to elucidate them in the order in which they occur in that high authority.—The first entry is as follows:—

A. D.
1080.

“ In Tornelaus Hund:—Terra Rogeri de Laci: idem Rogerus tenet Bodeham, et Herbertus de eo: Eddui tenuit: Ibi 1 hida et dimid: geld: in dnio sunt 2 carucata, et 6 villarii et 3 bordarii, et faber, et bedellus et 6 cott: cum 6 caruc: ibi 6 servi et molen-
1100. denum de 16 solidis et 30 stichis anguillarum: pratum est bobus tant: T. R. E. valuit 50 solidos, modo 60 sol.”

1373.

This extract from Domesday refers to what is termed the Hundred of Bodenham,* and belonged in the reign of Henry I. to Bernard Newmarch, who was grandfather of Roger Earl of Hereford; which Roger was succeeded by the Bohuns in his honours and estates. Humphrey Bohun was the last Earl of Hereford of the male line of this family, and died 16th Jan. 1373.

“ Anno 47 Edward III. Humphredus de Bohun, comes Hereford et Essex, tenuit die quo obiit, in dnio suo ut de feodo, de rege in capite, unum annualem redditum 20 librarum recipiend: annuatim de rege in castro Hereford, per manus vice-comitis in predicto comitatu per servitium baroniæ; item tenet in formâ pre dictâ quinquo hundreda in com: pred: per serv: baroniæ, viz. hundreda de Bodenham, Cowarne-magna, Kingestone, Burghill,

* Lord Coningsby's History.

et Stretford. *Alianora et Maria sunt filiae et hæredes ipsius Humphredi.*"*

Of these daughters and co-heiresses, Eleanor married Thomas de Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, and had these possessions. They left issue Ann, who married Edmund Stafford, Earl of Buckingham, and in right of his wife Earl also of Hereford. He was killed in the battle at Shrewsbury, A. D. 1403, and was succeeded by his son Humphrey, created Duke of Buckingham, and slain in the battle of Northampton, 38 Henry VI. His descendant, Edward Duke of Buckingham, being attainted of high treason, was beheaded 12 Henry VIII, and his possessions were confiscated.—An inquisition of his lands, taken two years afterwards, includes the five hundreds above mentioned; and Queen Elizabeth in the 23d year of her reign, exchanged them by letters patent, with Robert Earl of Leicester and John Morley, esq. for manors in the counties of Montgomery, Warwick, and Denbigh. The instrument expressed that these hundreds should be held by the above-mentioned parties, with benefit of survivorship to either of them, by fealty only and in free or common socage, and not in capite nor by knight's service. John Morley dying, the Earl became sole proprietor, and at his death these hundreds came to Ambrose Earl of Warwick, his son and heir, and by him were settled on his Countess and her heirs after his own life. The Earl dying, the Countess conveyed them by a tripartite indenture, dated Nov. 1, 1603, to Lord Russel, of Thormaugh, and to Arnold Oldesworth, and Richard Danford and their heirs: the said Arnold and Richard, in case of their surviving Lord Russell (as happened), engaging to

A. D.
1403.

1460.

1521.

1581.

1603.

* Harl. M. S. 606.

A. D.
1618.

convey these hundreds to such person or persons as Lord Sydney, afterwards Viscount Lisle, should appoint. These persons, thus authorized, sold them 15 James I. to Sir Thomas Coningsby, of Hampton Court, in this county, knt. for the consideration of £200, and afterwards descending to Thomas, Earl Coningsby, they became at his death the property of Frances, one of his daughters, and co-heiresses. Frances married Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, K. B. and had issue, Charlotte, who married A. D. 1754, William-Anne, fourth Earl of Essex, of the name of Capel, Viscount Malden, and Baron Capel, of Hadham. Dying A. D. 1799, he was succeeded by his son George, present Earl of Essex, &c. who sold this and other extensive property in Herefordshire, A. D. 1809, to the present owner, Richard Arkwright, esq. son of Sir Richard Arkwright, knt. by whose mechanical genius and laudable perseverance, the cotton manufactories of Great Britain were carried to their present great and unrivalled excellence.

When Bernard Newmarch, as stated above, enjoyed the property now under consideration, he obtained a licence from Henry I. to make the following grant in favour of the priory of Brecknock.—“*Charta Barnardi de Novo-mercato: In Angliâ vero dedi quatuor ecclesias, cum omnibus terris et decimis ad easdem pertinentibus, scilicet ecclesiam de Patyngham; ecclesiam de Bodenham, ecclesiam de Burchella, ecclesiam de Hardingtonâ, et decimam de Brunsoppe. Agnes vero, uxor mea, me concedente, dedit unum manerium quod vocatur Berringtona.*”^{*} This grant was confirmed by Roger Earl of Hereford in the following words:—
“*ac confirmavi cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudi-*

^{*} Mon. Ang. i vol. f. 320.

nibus, quas antecessores mei eis dederunt, cum omnibus etiam libertatibus, quas habet ecclesia sancti Martino de Bello in omnibus rebus, sicut carta domini mei regis Henrici attestatur: his testibus, Waltero de Clifford, Radulpho de Baskerville, Roberto de Baskerville, Osberto filio Hugonis, Willo de Beauchamp, Rogero de Burchull, Waltero de Fernâ, Jestino Traherne, et multis aliis."

The priory of Brecknock retained this property until the dissolution of religious houses, after which the manor and tithes were first granted in lease to Humphrey, father of Sir Thomas Coningsby, knt. for the term of twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of 13s. 4d. for the manor, and £10 for the tithes. This grant was dated June 11, 1558, and the whole was afterwards made over in fee simple to the said Sir Thomas, by letters patent, now at Hampton Court, in this county, and finally came, as before detailed, to Richard Arkwright, esq. the present proprietor.

BODENHAM FURCHES.

The second entry in Domesday is as follows:—"Idem Rogerus (de Laci) tenet in eodem hundredo, et Herbertus de eo, unum manerium de unâ virgatâ, non geldante, de unâ quintâ, quod tenuit Eddui Cilt cum unâ carucatâ. Valuit et valet 26 denarios."

A. D.
1086.

This extract relates to the manor of Bodenham Furches, which came into a family of that name by marriage with a Lacy heiress. A book of fees compiled in the reign of Henry III. thus notices this part of Bodenham: "In villâ de Bodenham, Wills de Furches tenet unam hidam pro quartâ parte unius feodi, quam Isabel Furches tenuit in dotem de Willo de Furches, et Willielmus de Waltero de Laci, de honore de Webley, de veteri feoffamento."

1216.

A. D.
1272.

Of this family another William de Furches lived in the reign of Edward I. and Sir Roger Furches, knt. his descendant, left Purnell his daughter and heiress, who married Sir William, second son of Lord Lucy, of Warwickshire. The MS. book of obits celebrated in Hereford cathedral records the deaths of William Furches, knt. and also of Roger Furches and Edith his wife, who gave land to the church of Hereford, and 4s. per annum to keep a lamp constantly burning before the great altar. Sir William Lucy, in right of his wife, the heiress of the Furches family, succeeded to her father's possessions, and lived in the reign of Henry V. He had issue Sir William, who had also issue Sir William, who had issue Sir Thomas, who lived in the reign of Elizabeth, when this manor was held of the crown by the fourth part of one knight's fee, and of the honour of Weobley. Sir Thomas Lucy sold it 25 Eliz. to Sir Thomas Coningsby, and it finally came, as already stated, to Richard Arkwright, esq. the present proprietor.

1413.

1558.

1583.

The third entry in Domesday Book is as follows: "Idem Rogerus tenet unam hidam de firmâ Mawrdine, manerium regis: Ingelrannus tenuit de eo. In dominio sunt 2 caruc: et 4 villani et 1 bordarius cum 2 caruc: ibi 3 servi. T. R. E. et post val: 40 sol: modo 60 sol. Eduuin tenuit."

This extract, as well as the second, appears to relate to Bodenhams Furches, but with the distinction, that the former comprised the manor and demesne only, and the latter, now under consideration, refers to the tenants holding in capite, of the lord of the said manor.* Each property has been subject to the same alienations and descents, as already detailed, and each now belongs to Mr. Arkwright, by purchase from the Earl of Essex.

* Lord Coningsby's History.

The fourth entry in Domesday, relative to this parish, is as follows:—"Terra Osberni filii Ricardi—Osbernus, filius Ricardi tenet Bodenham et tenuit—ibi una hida et dimid: geld: in dominio sunt 3 caruc: et 6 villarii et faber, et 2 bordarii et presbyter et unus Radman cum 8 caruc: inter omnes. T. R. E. valebat 60 sol, modo 48 solidos."

This extract alludes first to that part of Bodenham which was held by Roger de Laci of the King, as appears from the circumstance of the presbyter and church being situate within it; and secondly it refers to the one hide and the half held by Roger de Laci, and which paid the tax according to the first entry, relative to the hundred of Bodenham. The three carucates in demesne appear to be the demesne lands which Osborn, son of Richard, held of the king at the time of the survey, and which Bernard Newmarch afterwards held, who granted the church, parsonage, and tithes, to the priory of Brecknock, as already detailed. In this entry also, the remainder of the extensive property once belonging to the Bodenham family, seems to be included; this part had acquired the name of Bodenham *Rogeri*, for distinction, and is thus noticed in the book of fees made in the reign of Henry III.—"In villa de Bodenham Rogeri continetur dimid: hid: terræ, quam Rogerus de Bodenham tenet de Waltero de Baskervile, de Waltero de Laci, de honore de Webbeley."* This Roger was the last of his family who enjoyed any property here; for siding with the barons in their wars with Henry III. his lands were in the issue confiscated to the crown, and were afterwards called Bodenham *Regis*. In the reign of Philip and Mary, this manor, with lands, &c. was

* Harl. MS. 5223.

leased to Humphrey Coningsby, esq. was afterwards granted in fee by Queen Elizabeth to Thomas Coningsby, esq. and finally became, as before detailed, the property of Mr. Arkwright.

A. D.
1066.

A part of this extensive parish came, at an early date, into the possession of the noble family of Devereux (sometimes spelt Deveros, de Ebrois, and, de Ebroicis), by marriage with a Lacy heiress. They derive their name from the town of Evereux, in Normandy; and Robert Devereux attended the Conqueror at the battle of Hastings: he was father of Reginald, and had lands in Cornwall; Reginald had an only son, William, who married Halewyse, the Lacy heiress, and thus acquired possessions in this county. Halewyse survived her husband, and gave to the monks of St. Peter, in Gloucester, certain lands, called the Hyde, in this county, being part of those received from Walter de Lacy on her marriage: this grant was confirmed by Henry II. Eustace, son and heir of William, impleaded Herbert Waleran for one knight's fee in Kington, in the fifth year of King John. Stephen, his son, attended that monarch in the expedition to Poictou, in the fifteenth year of his reign, and having also served Henry III. in his wars against the Welsh, had scutage of his tenants, holding by military service, in the counties of Gloucester and Hereford. By Isabel his wife he had one son, William, who was one of the Lords Marchers, and fought against the Welsh; but siding with the Earl of Leicester at the battle of Lewes, was slain in the year following at the battle of Evesham. He married Maud, sister to Walter de Gifford, bishop of Bath and Wells, and left an only son, William; but the father's lands being forfeited, the son was deprived of them until he made his composition for them at three years' value, when he obtained livery of them. William had summons to Parliament,

1264.

1266.

A. D. 1298, and by Alice his wife left a son, Sir William, knt. who was father of Sir Walter, by Margery his wife. Sir Walter had two sons, Sir John, his heir; and Sir William, who seated himself in the parish now under consideration. Sir William was Sheriff of this county from A. D. 1362, during ten successive years, and in the time of his father a book of fees was compiled,* which thus notices the property now illustrating:—"In villâ de Bodenham continentur una hida et dimid: unde Walterus Deveros tenet unam hidam per serv: mil: de honore de Brecknock de vet: feoff: et Walterus de Muntegros dimid: per serv: mil: eodem modo." He married Ann, daughter of Sir John Barre, knt. and left issue Sir Walter, who also served the office of sheriff with Thomas Delabere, 1377 and 1378. In 1379 Sir Walter was one of the representatives of this county in Parliament, and again in 1384 and 1385. He also obtained a license for an annual fair of three days continuance, and also a weekly market in his vill of Bodenham. The days of the fair were to be those of the Assumption (i. e. 25th August), the day preceding, and the day following; and that of the market, Tuesday: "Rex concessit Waltero Devereux militi, quod ipsi et heredes sui in perpetuum habeant unum mercatum singulis septimanis per diem Martis apud villam suam de Bodenham in comitatu Herefordiensi; et unam feream ibidem singulis annis per tres dies duraturam, viz. in vigil, in die, et crastin: assumptionis beatæ Mariæ."† Sir Walter married Agnes, daughter of Thomas Crophull, cousin and heir of Sir John Crophull, knt. represented this county in Parliament 2 Henry IV. and died two years after, leaving issue four sons and two daughters, viz. Walter, John, Richard, Thomas, Elizabeth,

A. D.
1362.

1327.

1379.

1401.

* Coningsby's M.S.

† 1 Cart. 2 R. 2.

and Margaret. John and Richard were returned amongst the esquires of this county, A. D. 1433. Walter, the eldest son, succeeded his father, and marrying Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Bromwich, knt. had issue Sir Walter, son and heir, and one daughter, Elizabeth, who married — Melborne, esq. Sir Walter was fifteen years old at the death of his father, 14 Henry VI. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Merbury, knt. and had issue Sir Walter, his heir, Sir John, Anne, who married William Herbert, first Earl of Pembroke, and Sybil, wife of Sir James Baskerville, knt. Sir Walter married Anne, sole daughter and heiress of William Lord Ferrers, of Chartley, and by the special favour of the king (Henry VI.) had livery of her lands: he represented this county in Parliament 8 Henry VI. also 13th, 29th, and 38th of the same reign. In 1461 he was summoned to Parliament as a baron of the realm, by the title of Lord Ferrers, and in further recompence of his services and expenses in the wars against Henry VI. he obtained a grant of several manors, lordships, &c. from the crown. In 1470 he had a grant for life of the county of Carnarvon, and was made chief forester of Snowdon hills. In the same year he was installed a knight of the Garter; but adhering afterwards to Richard III. he was slain with him at Bosworth field, leaving issue Sir John, his heir, Sir Richard, Sir Thomas, and a daughter, Elizabeth, who married first, Sir Richard Corbett, of Morton Corbett, in Shropshire, and secondly, Sir Thomas Leighton, of Watlesborough, in the same county. Sir John was sheriff of this county 5 Henry VII. and was summoned to Parliament in the same reign. He married Cecily, daughter of Henry Bouchier, sister and heiress of Henry her brother, Earl of Essex (maternally descended from Thomas Plantagenet, Duke

A. D.
1436.

1470.

1485.

1490.

of Gloucester, youngest son of Edward III.) and left issue Walter, his only son and heir, and one daughter, Anne, who married Henry Lord Clifford.

Walter was joint Governor of Warwick Castle, and served Henry VIII. in his wars with France: he also distinguished himself in the naval engagement near Conquet, in Brittany, and was in consequence elected one of the knights companions of the order of the Garter, and two years afterwards, constituted Justice of South Wales. He attended the King at the taking of Bologne in 1544, and in 1550, was advanced to the dignity of Viscount Hereford, with an annual rent of twenty marks out of the profits of the county of Hereford. He died September 27, 1558, when it appeared by the *Inquisitio post mortem*, that his grandson Walter, son of Sir Richard, was his heir, and of the age of nineteen. He was twice married, and had issue by Mary his first wife, daughter of Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset, three sons, viz. Henry who died young; Sir Richard who died before his father, and Sir William who married Jane, daughter of John Scudamore, of Hom Lacy, esq. and left issue two daughters his co-heiresses, viz. Barbara, who first married Edward Cave, esq. and secondly Sir Edward Hastings, knt.; his other daughter was Margaret, who married Sir Edward Littleton, of Staffordshire, knt. Sir William Devereux, by his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Robert Garnish, esq. of Suffolk, had a son, Sir Edward, who was seated at Castle Bromwich, in Warwickshire, and was continuator of the male line of that branch of the family.

Sir Richard, eldest surviving son as before mentioned, by the first wife, died in possession of the Bodenham estates and manor, October 15, 1547, being eleven years before his father's death. By inquisition taken at Hereford, October 13, 1 Edward VI. it ap-

A. D.
1523.

1547.

peared, that he married Dorothy eldest daughter of George Earl of Huntingdon, and left issue Walter, his son and heir, then eight years and ten months old—also Sir George, knt. and two daughters, Elizabeth, who married Sir John Vernon, of Hodnet, knt. and Anne, wife of Henry Clifford. He was interred at All Hallows Barking, near the Tower of London. Walter, the second Viscount, succeeded his grandfather, and was created Earl of Essex, &c. &c. A. D. 1572. He married Lettice, daughter of Sir Francis Knolles, K. G. and dying A. D. 1576, was succeeded by his eldest son Robert, the unfortunate favourite of Queen Elizabeth. Robert was born at Netherwood, in the parish of Thornbury: and an account of his life will be found in the Collections for that parish. He left issue Robert, his only son, who being restored in blood, A. D. 1603, became the third Earl of Essex, but died without issue. He also left two daughters, Lady Frances and Lady Dorothy, his co-heiresses. Of these Lady Frances, the eldest daughter, married William Seymour, Marquis and Earl of Hertford, who was afterwards restored to the Dukedom of Somerset; and Lady Dorothy first married Sir Henry Shirley, of Leicestershire (from whom descended Earl Ferrers), and secondly to William Stafford, esq. In the division of the property between the co-heiresses, Bodenhams Devereux passed by marriage to the Marquis of Hertford and Duke of Somerset, and next to his daughter Mary on her marriage with Heneage Finch, second Earl of Winchelsea, and again with Lady Frances Finch, their daughter, on her marriage with Thomas Thynne, of Kempsford, who was afterwards (on the murder of Thomas Thynne, esq. by Count Konigsmark) of Longleat, in Wiltshire. Sir Thomas was created Baron Thynne, of Warminster, and Viscount Weymouth, A. D. 1682, with limita-

tion in case of failure of male issue, to James and Henry Frederick Thynne, his brothers. He had issue,—1 Henry, 2 William, who died an infant, and one daughter Frances, who married Sir Robert Worsley, bart. Henry died before his father and, without issue male, A. D. 1708, aged 33 years. His father, the first Viscount, died six years afterwards, when the title descended, according to the limitation, to the heirs of Henry Frederick Thynne, his nephew, above mentioned; which Henry died A. D. 1705, leaving one son, Thomas, then about eighteen years of age. In 1709 he married Lady Mary Villiers, daughter of Edward first Earl of Jersey; and dying from the small-pox in London, April 24, 1710, left his lady pregnant with a son, born 21 May following. This son was christened Thomas, and became the second Viscount Weymouth. He first married, A. D. 1726, Lady Elizabeth Sackville, eldest surviving daughter of Lionel Duke of Dorset. She died without issue, A. D. 1729; and in 1733 his Lordship married secondly, Lady Louisa Carteret, daughter of John Earl Granville, by whom he had issue,—1 Thomas, his heir, 2 Frederick, and 3 James. The second Viscount died A. D. 1751, and was succeeded in title and estate by his eldest son Thomas, third Viscount and K. G. who married Lady Elizabeth Cavendish Bentinck, eldest daughter of William Duke of Portland, and had issue,—Thomas, born 1765, George, born 1770, John, born 1772, and eight daughters. He was created Marquis of Bath, &c. A. D. 1789, and dying 1796, was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas, the present Marquis, who is now the proprietor of Bodenham Devereux. His lordship married Isabella, third daughter of George Viscount Torrington, April 24, 1794, and has issue, now living, Elizabeth, born February 27, 1795, Thomas, April 9, 1796, Henry Frederick,

May 24, 1797, John, Nov. 9, 1798, Louisa March 25, 1801, William, Oct. 17, 1803, Francis, Jan. 20, 1805, Edward, Jan. 25, 1807, and George, Dec. 25, 1808.

The ancient name of this noble family was Boteville; and by this name they held lands in the manor of Stretton and county of Salop, during several generations from the time of King John. Of these Thomas Boteville, elder brother of Hugh, had a son, Richard, who was father of William, who also had a son, Richard, who was father of John Boteville, called, from his residence in one of the inns of court, *John of Th' Inne*;* and thence was derived the surname of Thynne, as since used. They bear arms barry of ten, *or* and *sable*; crest, on a wreath, a rein-deer tripping, *or*; supporters, on the dexter side, a rein-deer, *or*, gorged with a plain collar *sable*; on the sinister, a lion, *gules*; motto, *J'ay bonne cause*.

FENNE AND FERNE.

In addition to the property already described, this extensive parish comprehends several other lordships; of which FENNE and FERNE were granted after the Norman Conquest to William, son of the Norman, and are thus surveyed in Domesday:—

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terra Will: fil: Normanni.—Idem Willielmus tenet Fenne; Steinulph tenuit—ibi una hida et dimid: geld: in dominio est una carucata, et duo villarii et septem bordarii cum 3 carucatis, et duo servi. T. R. E. valuit 20 solidos, modo 30 sol. Idem Will: tenet Ferne: duo Radmanni tenuerunt T. R. E. ibi dimidium hidæ. In dominio sunt duæ carucatæ, et unus villarius et duo bordarii cum unâ carucatâ, et quatuor servi et una ancilla.

* Observations, &c. by R. Bigland, esq. Clariencieux King at Arms.

Valuit 10 solidos, modo 16 sol. Hæc duo maneria adjacuerunt ad firmam Maudine, manerium regis." It appears probable, that from the circumstance of one of these manors being held by two Radmans (or riding bailiffs) in the time of Edward the Confessor, and also from their adjacency to Marden, as stated in Domesday, that Lord Coningsby, in his history of that parish, laboured to prove that they must originally have been parts or members of the manor of Marden.

During the short reign (if it may be so termed) of the Empress Maud, she granted the castle of Hereford to Milo Fitzwalter, when she created him Earl of Hereford.* At the same time she gave him the manor of Marden; the services of Richard de Cor-meiles, who, from his ancestor, Ansfrid de Cormeiles, held Amberley; and also the services of Hugh Fitzwilliam, who held Fenne and Ferne, from his father William Fitz (or fil:) Normanni, as mentioned in Domesday. The services of Robert de Chaundos, who held Sutton, were also given to the Earl on the same occasion.

Milo was succeeded by his son Roger, who died without issue, A. D. 1154, and was succeeded by his brother Walter, but the earldom of Hereford and his landed possessions in this county, were withheld from him by Henry II.

The manors of Fenne and Ferne thus came to the Crown with that of Marden, and Lord Coningsby again contended that they ought to have been considered as members of that great manor, and consequently to have been his property, when he purchased Marden from the Crown soon after the year 1717. Amongst other endeavours to establish this point, his lordship has given a

* Vol. I. of these Collections.

translation of the extract from Domesday on this subject, and rendered the word *adjacuerunt* "belong to."* This construction, it is conceived, is not justifiable, and therefore adds no weight to the pretensions urged by his lordship; nor does the circumstance of having Radmans to superintend the manor afford sufficient proof of lands being held exclusively by the Crown; for it will appear in the account of Bromyard that the bishop had a Radman over part of his manor there.

The fact appears to be, that these manors of Fenne and Ferne, coming to the Crown as above stated, underwent the same transfers as Amberley, &c. and finally reverting to the Crown by the attainder of Shelley, in 1587,† the Ferne was granted to John Scudamore, of Hom Lacy, esq. and this property is now held by Charles Howard, Duke of Norfolk, &c. &c. by virtue of his marriage, A. D. 1771, with Frances, sole heiress of that ancient house. The Ferne formerly gave name to a family residing there, of whom Walter de Ferne was a witness to the confirmation of a grant by Bernard Newmarch, to the priory of Brecknock, in the reign of Henry I.‡

The Fenne was also part of the Lingen possessions, and restored to the family in the first year of Charles II. Of these, Sir Henry Lingen died A. D. 1661, and left two sons (who had no issue) and seven daughters, who brought the whole of the property into the families of their respective husbands. Walter Allen, clerk, married one of the co-heiresses, and had purchased some land of Sir Henry Lingen, previous to Sir Henry's death. Her sisters married into

* History of Marden, fol. 108.

† See fol. 10 of this Vol.

‡ Mon. Ang. Vol. I. fol. 320.

the families of Dobyns, Unett, Herring, &c. and their representatives continued to hold the property in an undivided state until the year 1809, when, by consent of all the parties, the whole was disposed of in various lots under the authority of a clause introduced into an act of parliament for inclosing lands in this parish, and those of Sutton, Marden, &c. On this occasion the Fenne was sold to Mr. Thomas Hodges, of Lyde, in the adjoining parish of Pipe, and Mr. Hodges soon afterwards disposed of it to the present proprietor, Mr. John Price, of Uley, in the county of Gloucester. The Fenne anciently contained two hides of land, and was held of the honour of Kington,* by the service of half a knight's fee. It is also recognised as a manor in the book of tenures compiled in the first year of Elizabeth.†

HAMPTON RICHARDS

Is one of the manors attached to the mansion of Hampton Court, and acquired its additional name from Richard, father of Osbern, who held it, according to the fourth extract from Domesday Book. It will be further particularised in the account of Hampton Court, with which it came by grant of Henry IV. to Rowland Leinthall, master of the king's wardrobe, was sold by him to the Cornewalls, of Burford, by them, in the reign of Henry VI. to — Co-ningsby, esq. from whose family it passed by marriage, as before stated, to William Anne, fourth Earl of Essex, of the name of Capel, whose son, George, the present earl, sold it to Richard Arkwright, esq. the present proprietor.

* Lib. Feod.

† Bibl. Harl. 762.

MAUND BRYAN, OR MARSH MAUND.

This manor also belonged to Roger de Lacy after the Norman Conquest, and is thus surveyed in Domesday Book.

“ Terra Rogeri de Laci.—In Tornelaus Hund: Idem Rogerus tenet Magene: Hugo de eo ; Wonnui tenuit. Ibi 1 hida geld: et 1 carucata in dominio, et 3 servi ibi. Valuit 20 solidos, et post 10, et modo 15.”

A. D.
1216.

Passing by marriage from the Lacys, part of it became the property of a family from whom it acquired, as did also the parish of Brampton, the additional appellation of Bryan. The other occasional adjunct seems a corruption from Maurice de Berkeley, lord of Marden. In the reign of Henry III. Adam Malerbe and Thomas Bryan held this property, which is thus described in the book of fees compiled in that reign: “ In villâ de Magene Bryan una hida quam Adam Malerbe tenet pro quinta parte feodi de Johanne Malerbe et idem Johannes de rege. Et Thomas Bryan inde tenet medietatem, per servitium militare de veteri feoffamento.”

The Bryan family will be particularly noticed in the Collections for the parish of Brampton Bryan, in the hundred of Wolphey. They were succeeded here by the Lingens, the great proprietors of lands in this vicinity. Coming with Amberley, &c. to the Crown, A. D. 1587, by the attainder of William Shelley, who had married the daughter of John Lingen, Maund Bryan was granted to Sir James Scudamore, of Hom Lacy, in the reign of James I. and it is now the property of the Duke of Norfolk, by marriage with the heiress of that family. It is thus recognised as a manor in the book of fees compiled in the first year of the reign of Elizabeth.

“Manerium de Mawne-Bryan tenetur de Dominâ Reginâ, per quintam partem unius feodi militis, de honore de Webley.” The court rolls also from the time of James I. are now at Hom Lacy.

BRADFIELD,

Another manor and principal estate in Bodenham, is situated on the north-east limit of the parish, and is thus surveyed in Domesday Book amongst the lands which “jacebant at Leoffminstre.”

“Radulphus de Todenî tenet Bradfelde de unâ hidâ.” This Ralph was of a noble Norman family, and probably brother to Robert de Todenî, who built the ancient seat of Belvoir Castle, in Lincolnshire, which was the chief mansion of a great barony given to him by William the Conqueror. The possessions of the Todenî family were divided amongst coheiresses in the early part of the reign of Henry III. and *Hugh de Bradfelde*, assuming the name from the estate, became proprietor of this manor, &c. He was succeeded by William de Bradfield, when, according to the *Liber feodorum*, often quoted, “In Bradefelde continetur una hida quam Will: de B. tenet per socagium de Thomâ Bryan, et idem Thomas, de Rege de veteri feoffamento.” This William adhered to Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, against the king, and thus occasioned the confiscation of his property. Bradfield was then given by grant, dated at Kenilworth, August 8, 1266, to John Tropinal.—“Henricus Dei Gratiâ Rex, &c. Sciatis nos dedisse et hâc cartâ nostrâ confirmasse Johanni Tropinal pro fidei servicio suo, omnes terras et tenementa cum pertinentiis que fuerunt Willielmi de Bradefeld in comitatu Herefordie, inimici et rebellis nostri, qui Symoni de Monteforti quondam comiti Ley-

cestrie inimico et feloni nostro et imprisis suis adhesit tempore guerre que nuper in regno nostro mota fuit per ipsum Symonem et dictos imprisos suos ad exheredaceonem nostram et destructionem corone nostre, usque ad bellum internos et dictos inimicos et rebelles nostros commissum. Et quorum inimicorum et rebellium terre et tenementa per forisfacturam eorum de communi consensu et consilio magnatum ac fidelium regni nostri, ad nostram ordinationem et dispositionem hâc vice pertinent; salvis capitalibus dominis homagiis et serviciis suis, &c. His testibus venerabili patre Waltero, Bathon: et Wellens: episcopo; Johanne de Bayllol; Philippo Bayllol;* Rogero de Leyburn; Rogero de Clifford; Stephano de Eddeworth et aliis. Datum per manum nostram apud Kennylworth vicesimo octavo die Augusti anno regni nostri quinquagesimo.† The grantee, however, seems only to have waited the death of the king to restore the estate, on certain conditions, to the family of Bradfield. This appeared by an instrument, of which the following is a copy, and which was preserved, with the former grant, amongst the records at Wistaston Court, in the adjoining parish of Marden: “ Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Johannes Tropinel relaxavi et quiete clamavi pro me et pro heredibus meis, Johanni de Bradefel, filio Rogeri de B. et heredibus suis, vel suis assignatis totum tenementum de Hure Bradefeld cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, sicut unquam plenius tenui sine aliquo retenemento, vel aliqua diminucione, cum omnibus edificiis, boscis, pratis, planis, gardinis, et omnes tenentes cum earum homagiis, serviciis, redditibus, wardis, maritagiis, heriettis, releiviis, sectis placitis et perquisitis curiarum, escaetis, et cum omnibus

* Philip Bayloll was made Chief Justiciary, A. D. 1261.

† Coningsby's MS.

exitibus et commodis inde provenientibus, viz. totum illud tenementum cum pertinentiis prenominatis quod habui ex dono domini regis Henrici, filii regis Johannis per cartam suam, quam dicto Johanni attribui. Pro hac autem relaxacione et quieta clamacione dedit mihi dictus Johannes de Bradefel pre manibus sexdecim marcas argenti. Et ne ego aut quisquam heredum meorum aliquod jus vel clamium aliquo tempore in dicto tenemento cum pertinentiis suis, ut prenomiatum est, possimus vindicare . . . contra hanc relaxacionem et quietam clamacionem venire, presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. His testibus, Domino Willo de Furches; Thomâ de Marisco; Rogero de Sinclere; Nicholao de Sparewetone; Nicholao Clement; Adamo Woel; Waltero de Rifferin; Thoma de Ebroicis; Nicholao de la Hulle, et aliis."

Amongst the Collections of St. George, Clarencieux King at Arms, is, "Carta Thome filii Hugonis de Bradfelde, dat: apud Bradfelde 4 Edw. I." John de Bradfelde witnessed four several deeds, of which the first bore date 19 Edw. II.; the two next were dated 11 Edw. III.; and the fourth two years afterwards. He also acquired property here from John, son of William Rowland: "Johes: filius Willmi Rowland de Norton Stormy remisit et relaxavit Johanni de Bradefeld, et Dno: Rico fratri suo, vicario de Bodenham, heredibus et assignatis dicto Johannis, jus suum in omnibus terris quas Willielmus, pater ejus predictus, Johanni et Ricardo feoffavit in Rousemawne, Wytechirchemawne et in parochiâ de Bodenham. Testibus, Stephano Devereus, Rico de Maiewardyn, Johe de Preston, Johe Devereus, Rogero Devereus, et aliis."* The portrait of this John de Bradfelde was painted in the east window of the south aisle of the parish church. His

A. D.
1276.

1326.

* Cart. olim penes R. Dobyns gen.

A. D.
1335.

1350.

1383.

brother Richard was presented to the vicarage by the Prior and Convent of Brecknock, in the year 1335.* In 1346 Margaret de Bradfelde (who was probably the widow of John) had a license from the Bishop for the celebration of mass in her chapel or oratory in Bradfield:—"Anno 1346, Feb. 11. Episcopus concessit Margarete, de Bradfield, in parochiâ de Bodenham licentiam missas celebrandi sine prefixione temporis et absque matricis ecclesiæ prejudicio."† Giles de Bradfield was living about 1350; and John, his son, was sub-bailiff to the Abbot of Reading, for their possessions in Leominster, 6 Rich. II.‡ After this period none of the family of Bradfield have been found on record; and the property under consideration was transferred (probably by gift) to the adjacent preceptory of Dinmore, from which circumstance part of the estate is still called "Jerusalem lands." After the suppression of religious houses, Bradfield was granted to the Welfords, of Wistaston Court, passed from them with Wistaston, as will be particularised hereafter, to the Prise family, from them to the Chutes, and from them to the Haytons; of whom Thomas Hayton, esq. sold Bradfield, A. D. 1770, to Thomas Phillipps, esq. of Eaton Bishop, an eminent barrister, whose second son Robert, of Longworth, in the parish of Lugwardine, now enjoys it.

The mansion is principally of stone, and in its porch, and the remains of a chapel, bears evident and respectable vestiges of antiquity.

WHITECHURCH MAUND.

This part of Bodenham was given after the Norman Conquest to Nigel the physician, and is thus surveyed in Domesday Book: "Terra Nigelli, medici: In Tornelaus Hund:—Idem Nigel tenet

* Bishop Trilleck's Register.

† Ibid.

‡ Coningsby's MS.

Mage. Leflet tenuit de Sancto Guthlaco: ibi 2 hidæ geld: ibi sunt 7 villarii cum 5 caracatis: valuit 40 sol. modo 30."

The additional name of Whitechurch is supposed to be derived from a small white chapel which once stood on the estate, but of which no vestiges are now to be traced. The manor, &c. came, at an early date, with Bodenham Devereux, &c. as already detailed, into the possession of the noble family of Devereux, and is thus noticed in the book of fees compiled in the reign of Henry III. "In Magene-album continentur due hide quas Isabel Deveros tenet de Rogero Pychard, et idem Rogerus de honore de Webley de veteri feoffamento." The further descent has been given in the account of Bodenham Devereux, and it is now the property of Mr. Arkwright, by purchase from the Earl of Essex. It is thus recognised as a manor in the book of tenures, dated in the first year of the reign of Elizabeth; "Manerium de Mawne Albyn tenetur de Domina regina per servitium militare de honore de Webley."*

BOWLEY,

Another township and reputed manor in this parish, is thus surveyed in Domesday Book: "In Tornelaus Hund: Terra Nigelli medici—Idem Nigel tenet Bolelei et Radulphus de eo: Leflet tenuit: ibi una hida libera a geldâ et regis servitio: in dominico sunt 2 carucate et 2 bordarii: terra est 4 caruc: valuit 25 solidos, modo 20 solidos."

This property has always formed part of the Hampton Court estate, and has undergone the several alienations and descents which have been before recapitulated: it now belongs to Mr. Arkwright.

* Harl. MS. 762.

Since the account of BODENHAM DEVEREUX was compiled for these Collections, that property has been twice disposed of; first, by the Marquis of Bath, who sold it to the present Earl of Essex; and secondly by the Earl, who sold it to Mr. Arkwright, the present possessor. It remains also to be observed that Hampton-Richards, Bradfield and Bowley, although situated within the parish of Bodenheim, and therefore noticed in this place, constitute part of the hundred of Wolphey.

A respectable family of the name of Hayward were long resident in Bodenheim; their pedigree was entered in the last Heraldic visitation of this county; and it is to be regretted that the disuse of such visitations has materially increased the difficulties of correctly tracing the subsequent progress and state of ancient families.

John le Hayward, of Bodenheim, lived before the time of Edward I. and was followed successively by two other Johns in that reign, and these by two more in the reigns of Edward II. and III. Philip Hayward succeeded the last John 5 Edward III. and was himself succeeded by Hugh fifteen years after. This Hugh married Joan — and had issue John and Hugh, which John was living 20 Richard II. and was succeeded by Walter, who marrying Matilda — had issue Philip, and was succeeded by Hugh, and Hugh by John, who married a daughter of Walter Walwyn, of Longford (now Longworth), in this county, and was returned in the list of the gentry of Herefordshire, 12 Henry VI. They had issue Richard, who married Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Taylor, and had issue Richard, who married Agnes, daughter of Thomas ap Henry, and widow of Rowland Unett. Their son Thomas had possessions in Wellington and Prior's Court, and married Joan, daughter of Richard Morton, of Eastbach. They had issue

Thomas, an ecclesiastic, who died unmarried, Catherine, who took the veil, and John, who succeeded his father, and married Jane, daughter of Lewis de Boyle, of Hereford, by whom he had a numerous issue, viz. William, who married Maria, daughter of — Molyne; Matthew; Lucy, who married Robert Martyn; Ann, wife of William Shepherd; Magdalen, and Catherine (of whom no accounts have been met with), Eleanor, who died young; and Milo, eldest son, who removed to London, and marrying, first, Sybil, daughter of William Symonds, of Kent, esq. had issue three sons and four daughters; his second wife was Alice, daughter of — Peake, by whom he had one son, Thomas, who died *sine prole*, and one daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Edward Jackman, of Buckinghamshire. Their connexion with this county had then ceased: and they bore arms, *or*, three lioncels *gules*, over all a bendlet *sable*.

The extent of the parish of Bodenham, from north to south, is nearly three miles, and in the opposite direction about four miles. The river Lugg passes through it nearly from north to south, watering a succession of the richest meadows. Most of the arable land is also highly fertile, consisting of a deep clayey soil, which produces luxuriant crops of wheat and other grain; it also contains many of the most valuable orchards. The population has varied but in a very small degree within the last hundred and fifty years.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Bodenham is a vicarage, valued in the *Liber Regis* at £12. 1s. 5½d. per annum, with glebe worth twenty shillings.

The tithes which anciently belonged to the Priory of Brecknock, as before mentioned, were added to the see of Hereford after

In Howton, or Bodenham Furches, the rector of Puddleston, has had two-thirds of the corn tithes from a remote period, and the Vicar of Bodenham the remaining third.

In the ancient taxation this church was estimated at thirty-one marks and ten shillings, paid £8 to the *Nonarum*, granted 14 Edward I.; was rated at twenty marks, in Pope Nicholas's valuation, A. D. 1292; and is estimated in the *Liber Regis* at £12. 1s. 5d. per ann: clear: in the year 1557 the vicarage was valued at the same sum, and the advowson was sold, at two years' purchase, to Humphrey Coningsby, Esq. from whose family it passed to the Earls of Essex, and now belongs to Mr. Arkwright.

PATRONS.						A. D.	INCUMBENTS.	
Priory of Brecknock	-	-	-	-	-	1291	-	Hugh de Benet.
The same	-	-	-	-	-	1308	-	John Havard.
The same	-	-	-	-	-	1335	-	Richard de Bradfield.
The same	-	-	-	-	-	1349	-	William Poddynges.
The same	-	-	-	-	-	1371	-	John Floracence.
The same	-	-	-	-	-	1391	-	John Warden.
The same	-	-	-	-	-	1412	-	{ Thomas Eynons. Lewis ap Howell.

Priory of Brecknock	-	-	1420	-	-	{ John ap Eynon.
						{ William ap Daniel.
The Bishop (by lapse)	-	-	1421	-	-	Walter Wotton.
Priory of Brecknock	-	-	1465	-	-	Walter Young.
						Daniel Morys.
Priory of Brecknock	-	-	1526	-	-	Richard Morys.
King Henry VIII.	-	-	1542	-	-	William Lloyd.
Queen Mary	-	-	1556	-	-	James Yeomans.
Thomas Coningsby, knt.	-	-	1615	-	-	Stephen Savorie.
						John Pember.
						{ William Caldicot.
Ferdinando Gorges	-	-	1687	-	-	{ Thomas Whittell.
Thomas, Earl Coningsby	-	-	1710	-	-	Lucas Hathway.
Margaret, Countess Coningsby	1729	-	-	-	-	Geo. Coningsby, D. D.
The Bishop of Hereford	-	-	1756	-	-	Morgan Price.
Margaret, Countess Coningsby	1758	-	-	-	-	Josiah Smart.
Lady Frances Coningsby	-	-	1770	-	-	Wilson Bewick.
The Earl of Essex	-	-	1799	-	-	Nicholas Wait Robinson.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and is situated in a pleasant and fertile vale, on the right bank of the River Lugg. It consists of a lofty nave, a cross aisle, and two side aisles, a chancel, which has been lately rebuilt, a tower with five bells, and a cupola of stone on the top, with pinnacles at the corners: the whole forms a large and handsome structure. The east end of each of the two side aisles has been appropriated to the service of two chauntries, the one founded in honour of the Virgin Mary, and endowed with lands and tenements of the clear yearly value of £3 17s. 9d.; the other, in honour of our Saviour, having a mesuage and appertenances, worth £1 5s 0d. per annum. The *Lavacra* remain under pointed arches, and each chapel has two handsome pointed windows, being separated by walls from the other part of the aisles, and by a partition of carved oak from the nave.

A. D.
1377.

This church was reviewed about A. D. 1656, by Silas Taylor, and he mentions in his MS. (now in the Harleian Library, British Museum, London) that the arms of Richard II. were painted in the north aisle, from whence he infers that the church was probably built in that reign, when Sir Walter Devereux resided here, whose assistance might have contributed much towards its erection. A portrait of John de Bradfield was also painted in the east window of the south aisle, and in another window towards the south were these arms :

Gules, three pikes (or lucys) *or*, between six cross crosslets *azure*.
Lucy.

Gules, a chevron between three ducks, *azure*, beaked and feeted, *azure*.

Gules, a fesse, in chief, three plates, *azure*.—*Devereux*.

Gules, a lion rampant, cross crosslet fitchée, *azure*.

NORTH WINDOW.

Azure, a cross pat: fleur: between six martlets, *or*, impaled with France and England.—*Richard II*.

Azure, a bend cotized, *or*, between six martlets of the same.—*Delabere*.

Also in the body of the church, *azure*, on a cross, *sable*, a leopard's face, *or*.—*Brydges*.

All these memorials have since been destroyed.

CHANCEL.

Under a sepulchral arch in the north wall, are the stone effigies of a woman and child in a very antique garb, a greyhound muffled at their feet.

SOUTH WALL.

On White Marble.

Mary, widow of James Parlour, late of Westington, in the parish of Grendon Bishop, died Aug. 2, 1768, aged 84.

On a Brass Plate.

John Pember, B. D. Prebendary of Hereford and Vicar of Bodenham, was deprived 1646, and restored 1660. He was buried May 24, 1677, in the 84th year of his age; to whose memory, his grandson, John Pember, A.M. Prebendary of St. David's, caused this to be erected.

NORTH WALL.

On a Marble Table.

Rev. Josiah Smart, A. M. late Student in Christ Church College, Oxon, a Prebendary of Litchfield, and Vicar of this Parish, resigned his soul to God, Nov. 22, 1769, aged 60.—Mrs. Margaret Smart, his widow, in token of her esteem and love, has caused this monument to be erected.

Arms.

Argent, a cheveron *sable*, between 3 arrow heads of same; on a shield of pretence, *or*, three trees, proper.

ON FLAT STONES.

Thomas Higgins, of Broadfield, Oct. 3, 1698, aged 76.

Elizabeth Higgins, Oct. 23, 1725, aged 70.

Thomas Higgins, May 19, 1723, aged 69.

John Mason, Jan. 20, 1719, aged 21.

Joseph, son of Philip Bowker, March 27, 1710.

Isabella, wife of John Lane, May 5, 1727.

William Caldicott, Minister of B****

Thomas Mayo, gent. and Catherine his wife.

He died Jan. 29, 1625.

THE NAVE

Contains an ancient altar monument, covered with an alabaster stone, seven feet in length, two feet and an half in breadth, and ten inches in thickness. On the top are the remains of a rude engraving of a man, with hands clasped on the breast, &c. and several small male figures round it, with shields and drawn swords. The facility of the alabaster to receive impressions from any hard substance has exposed it to more than the common injury of time: many of the lines are, however, still to be traced, and a shield at the end with the arms of Devereux, plainly indicates it to be a memorial over one of that family; and from various circumstances it is rendered highly probable, that it is the tomb of Sir Walter, who has now been interred about four hundred years.

ON FLAT STONES.

Humphrey Newton, Feb. 5, 1710, aged 61.
 Susannah, his wife, June 20, 1720.
 Jane, wife of Edward Newton, May 20, 1721.
 Mary, wife of John Hanley, June 23, 1740.
 Lydia, wife of John Pilliner, Aug. 8, 1741.
 Benjamin Evans, May 7, 1726.
 John Mason, of the Fern, Sept. 12, 1727.
 — wife of Richard Symonds, Aug. 1, 1712.
 John Hering, Dec. 9, 1737.
 Ann, wife of Peter Ravenhill, June 21, 1759.
 Elizabeth, the daughter of Bensalem Edwards, of Deredales Hope, in this Parish, March 5, 1778.
 Eliz. Mason, late of Hegdon, June 15, 1784.
 John, son of Eliz. Hall, March 9, 1724.
 John Burford, June 18, 1732.
 Rev. John Mason, Oct. 27, 1753.
 William, son of William and Susannah Baker, Oct. 13, 1724.

Humphrey, son of Humphrey Bryan, and Margaret his wife, Nov. 21, 1718.
 Wm. Baker, of In-land Gate, April 28, 1777.
 Mary his wife, April 30, 1772.
 Joan, wife of Thomas Edwards, Feb. 18, 1691.
 Ann, daughter of Richard and Catherine Shepherd, May 7, 1725.
 Richard, their only son, March 10, 1725.
 Thomas Edwards, of Whitechurch Maund, eldest of that family, June 1, 1714.
 Timothy Edwards, Sept. 6, 1728.
 Margaret, his wife, Oct. 22, 1728.
 John Jenkins, sen. May 17, 1738.
 John Jenkins, jun. July 30, 1756.
 Jane, relict of John Jenkins, sen. March 17, 1759.
 Richard Symonds, April 11, 1675.
 Richard Symonds, April 27, 1732.
 William Newton, Oct. 17, 1751.

SOUTH AISLE.

On Marble against the West Wall.

Thomas Mason, late of the Vern in this Parish, gent. died March 24, 1773, aged 85; who by will, dated May 17, 1770, devised six acres of land inclosed out of the *Dunfield*, shooting upon *Smeddal Common Meadow*, and three acres more in the same field shooting upon the *Bean Acres*, to the Overseers of the Poor of this Parish for ever: the yearly rent thereof to be by them paid to poor Housekeepers (not receiving weekly pay), on Feb. 2, and June 24, in every year. The Vicar of the Parish being therein desired to inspect the distribution of this Charity, that such persons may have it, who stand in greatest need thereof.
 Eleanor Mason, his wife, died Sept. 2, 1763, aged 63 years.

On Flat Stones.

Mary, wife of Thos. Powell, Aug. 21, 1727.
 Thomas Newton, July 6, 1744.

Ann, wife of Thos. Buckler, Oct. 29, 1726.
 Also — his son.
 Mary, wife of Thomas Beddowes, December 17, 1717.
 Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Wright, July 6, 1730.
 John Jenkins, May 3, 1730.
 John Grove, jun. June 28, 1719.
 Mary, wife of John Grove, sen. Aug. 16, 1728.
 John Grove, sen. March 8, 1742.
 Matthew Mayse, June 24, 1769.
 Mary, wife of John Vaughan, May 8, 1733.
 — wife of John Fenton, March 29, 1654.
 Sarah, wife of William South, September 23, 1740.
 John Carless, Nov. 22, 1713.
 Eleanor, his wife, Nov. 30, 1728.
 William South, jun. July 3, 1783.
 William South, sen. Feb. 19, 1748.
 William Edwards, May 23, 1738.
 Mary South, Dec. 2, 1791.

EAST WALL.

John Careless, gent. Oct. 9, 1680.

John, son of William and Mary South, Oct.
30, 1747.

Elizabeth, daughter of William and Mary
South, January 22, 1744.

NORTH AISLE.

1651, W. M. (Mason).

1666, E. M. May 2.

William, son of John Mason, April, 1725.
Ann Flower, widow, Sept. 24, 1729.

In the north wall are remains of a stone staircase, which probably once led to the rood loft, and near it is this inscription :

Richard Matthews, October 16, 1647.

The font is a large and hexagonal stone, thus inscribed :

This Church was paved by William Bowkes, A. D. 1714.

Thomas Beddowes, John Derry, *Churchwardens*.

In the chancel is also a marble tablet, in memory of Wilson Bewick, D. D. late Vicar of this parish, who died Feb. 16, 1799, aged 68; and in the Nave, John Evans, of the Vern, died July 4, 1801, aged 69.—Clara, his sister, July 18, 1801, aged 71.

In the village are the remains of a large cross, with a well adjoining, called *The Cross Well*.

PARISH OF BRIDENBURY.

BRIDENBURY is bounded on the north-west by Grendon Bishop; on the south-west by Pencomb; on the south-east by Bromyard; and on the north by the township of Wacton, in the same parish.

After the Norman Conquest Bridenbury was given to Roger de Laci, and is thus noticed in Domesday :—

“In Plegeliet Hund : Terra Rogeri de Laci. Id. Rogerus tenet Brideneberie : Lepsi tenuit, et quo volebat ire, poterat : Ibi 1 hida geld: in dominio est 1 carucata et 4 villarii cum 4 carucatis, et adhuc 3 caruc. possent ibi esse in dominio: Ibi 5 servi. T. R. E. valuit 30 solid: modo 10 solid: Herman tenet de Rogero.”

A. D.
1086.

A. D.
1277.

This Roger de Laci was probably a brother of Walter and Ilbert de Laci, who came into England with the Conqueror, and had large grants of lands and manors in this county, which, on failure of male issue, were divided amongst several coheiresses in the reign of Henry III. Soon after that period Thomas Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford, granted to his kinsman Nicholas de Hodenet, or Hodeneth, for his homage and service, and for ten marks of silver, all the lands and tenements, with their appertenances, which Thomas de Salisbury held in Bridenbury, and which Thomas surrendered to the said Nicholas and his heirs for ever, with lands in Soderfield, &c. 12 acres.*

“ A. D. 1272. Thomas de Eton doth release and quit claim for himself and heirs, unto John de Saperbury and his heirs for ever, in all his lands and tenements in Bridenbury, which the said John had by gift of John le Parker, for which John le Parker gave to the said Thomas ten marks sterling. Witnesses to this release were

DNUS. OSBERTUS DE AVENBURY.
MAG. DNUS. DE CROFT.
ROBERTUS DE CROFT.
MICL. DE NEWETONE.
JOHES DE GODARD.
STEPH. BERNARD.

EGIDIUS HACKLUIT.
LAURENT. DAPETOT.
RICARDUS DE ENONE.
JOHANNES DE BUFNEDE.
JOHANNES DE MAPENODE.
THOMAS HENNON.

Dat: apud Hereford in Octav: Sci Johannis Baptist: Anno Regni Regis Edwardi (primi) filii Henrici Regis, quarto.” †

A. D. 1286. A controversy arose between Nicholas de Hodenet, or Hodeneth, and Thomas de Eton or Eyton, relative to lands in this parish; and the parties being heard in the court of Richard Swinfield, Bishop of Hereford, at his palace at Bosbury, the

* Cantilupe's Register.

† Swinfield's Register.

dispute was terminated by Thomas de Eyton renouncing all claim and right thereto, and signifying the same in the presence of the following witnesses :—

DNI. RIC. EPISCOPI HEREFORD.	STEPHANI DE SWYNEFORD.
FRATRIS WILL. CELERarii DE DORA.	ROBT. DE FFURCHES.
MAGISTRI RIC. DE HEREFORD.	CLEM. DE WESTBECH.
DNI. JOHANNIS DE KEMPSEYE.	REGINALDI DE BOKLAND.
DNI. WILLI DE MORETON.	JOH. DE LANGFORD, <i>Clerici.</i>
	<i>Et multorum aliorum.</i>

The proceedings are thus recorded : “ Placita apud Westmonast: coram Thom. de Wylaund et sociis suis, justiciariis de Banco, in termino Sci Michaelis, Anno Regis Edwardi, filii Henrici, quarto: Thomas filius Walteri de Eton petit versus Nicholam de Hodeneth unam carucatam et dimid: terræ in Bridenbury cum pertinentibus, ut jus suum, &c. venit per summon: et warrant: Ricardi Episcopi Hereford et concordati sunt, &c. Et est concordia talis quod predictus Thomas recognoscit predictam terram cum pert: esse jus ipsius Ricardi et Ecclesiæ suæ de Hereford, et illa mei remisit et quiete clamavit de se et hæredibus suis predicto Ricardo et successoribus suis in perpetuum, &c.”

The Dean and Chapter of Hereford afterwards confirmed the deed of Thomas Bishop of Hereford to Nicholas de Hodenet, and underneath is written this memorandum : “ Mem:—quod Nicholas de Hodenet habet apud Bridenbury tres campos in quorum uno sunt 54 acræ, in altero 52, in tertio 81.—Item sunt ibi 16 acræ de bosco ; item 15 acræ prati in diversis locis. Una medictatis emptæ fuit a diversis hominibus ; item 3 acræ pasturæ ; Terræ arabilis 47 acræ, unde 10 acræ emptæ a diversis hominibus.”*

* Reg. Swinfield.

A. D.
 1287. About this date Bridenbury was held by a family of the name
 of Keyrdiff, of whom Dominus Paulinus de K:* miles, presented
 to the church, A. D. 1287, and William de K.† 1320. These were
 succeeded by Richard Hopton, who seems to have enjoyed it about
 twenty years, after which Thomas Helyon‡ was Lord of Briden-
 1361. bury, and patron of the church. He was succeeded by John
 1370. Helyon, who was living A. D. 1370. At his death he left John,
 his heir, who was a minor, A. D. 1385.‡ Ten years after John
 Helyon presented to the church, and was styled "Johannes H. de
 Yarcle." A John Helyon was also lord and patron of Bridenbury,
 1408. A. D. 1408; soon after which period the family seem to have be-
 come extinct, or to have quitted this county, as none of that
 name were returned in the list of the gentry of Herefordshire by
 1434. the commissioners appointed for that purpose 12 Henry VI.

After this time Bridenbury very frequently changed its possessors:
 John Attkynes held it a few years; John Hawlins was lord from
 1557. 1557 to 1573, and was succeeded by Paul Ailesworth. John Preise
 1617. was in possession A. D. 1617, and about the close of that century,
 a family of the name of Saunders enjoyed it, of whom Margaret
 Saunders presented to the church, A. D. 1720; after whom descend-
 ing to two co-heiresses of that family, the manor, estate, and
 1730. patronage of the church were sold by them, about A. D. 1730, to
 Mr. Richard West, whose son Mr. William West, succeeded; and
 dying unmarried in January, 1807, the property descended to his
 nephew, Mr. W. West, who now enjoys it.

The soil of Bridenbury is a loamy clay, producing good crops of wheat, barley, hops and clover:—The whole parish is of very small

* Reg. Swinfield.

† Reg. Courtney.

‡ Gilbert's Register.

extent. A turnpike road from Bromyard to Leominster passes through it, in length about three quarters of a mile; from north to south in the opposite direction, the parish extends about one mile: a small stream rises near the church, and runs into Bromyard Brook. Camden* notices a camp here, but his information is not correct, or the traces are entirely obliterated.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Bridenbury is a rectory, discharged in the *Liber Regis* from the payment of tenths, &c. being only of the certified value of £10. per annum. The lords of the manor (who have also been proprietors of the principal estate), have successively been patrons of the church. The bishops' registers entitle it *Ecclesia Parochialis*, until A. D. 1477, after which it is stiled *Libera Capella*, and said to have been vacated by the resignation of R. M. *ultimus custos* sive possessor ejusdem.† It is unnoticed in the Nonarum, 14 Edward I. and in the taxation of Pope Nicholas, A. D. 1292. The whole tithes belong to the rector, and are now estimated at £100. per annum. A small silver cup was given by Mrs. Margaret Saunders, for the use of the inhabitants receiving the sacrament.—It continues to be applied to that purpose, and is thus inscribed; “The gift of Mrs. Margaret Saunders to the parish church of Birdenbury.”

A. D.
1720.

PATRONS.			A. D.	INCUMBENTS.		
Paul de Keyrdiff	-	-	1287	-	-	Thomas de Balecroft.
The same	-	-	1288	-	-	William de Redebroke.
William de Keyrdiff	-	-	1300	-	-	Hugh de Ganridge.

* Britannia, Vol. II. 457.

† Stanbury's Register.

PATRONS.				A. D.	INCUMBENTS.	
William de Keyrdiff	-	-	-	1320	-	Thomas le Zennyoth.
Richard Hopton	-	-	-	1330	-	John le Porter.
The same	-	-	-	1340	-	John de Leigh.
The same	-	-	-	1349	-	John de Brockhampton.
Thomas Helyon	-	-	-	1361		
The same	-	-	-	1367	-	John de Nethbury.
John Helyon	-	-	-	1370	-	John Hampton.
The Bishop of Hereford, on account of the minority of John Helyon				1385	-	John de Aylton.
John Helyon	-	-	-	1393	-	Robert Bray.
The same	-	-	-	1395	-	Robert Symon.
The same	-	-	-	1404	-	John Rede.
The same (de la Castell)	-	-	-	1405	-	{ Vincent, son of John Glentworth.
The same	-	-	-	1408	-	Richard Boselyn.
					-	Philip Lowre.
John Attkynnes	-	-	-	1467	-	Thomas ap Adams.
The same	-	-	-	1477	-	Richard Mortimer.
— Hawlins	-	-	-	1557	-	Henry Smallman.
Richard Rowdon (for John Hawlins)	-	-	-	1560	-	Charles Collyns.
John Hawlins	-	-	-	1561	-	Thomas Toye.
The same	-	-	-	1573	-	Richard Waston.
Paul Ailesworth	-	-	-		-	Henry James.
John Preise	-	-	-	1617	-	Thomas Onions.
Margaret Saunders	-	-	-	1720	-	Ferdinando Whittell.
Richard West, gent.	-	-	-	1731	-	Thomas Palmer.
The same	-	-	-	1737	-	Humphrey Butler.
The same	-	-	-	1747	-	Thomas Skyrme.
William West	-	-	-	1767	-	Joseph Taylor.
The same	-	-	-	1778	-	Roger Lloyd.
The same	-	-	-	1792	-	Samuel Powell.

The church is a small and old building, consisting of a nave and low tower, with two bells. It is situated on the east side of the turnpike road, at the distance of nearly three miles from the town of Bromyard, and nine from that of Leominster.

ON THE EAST WALL ARE THESE INSCRIPTIONS.

Richard West, gent. died Feb. 19, 1748, aged 72 years.		Mrs. Hannah West, wife of the above, was interred Sept. 17, 1761, aged 79.
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ON FLAT STONES IN THE CHANCEL.

Hannah, daughter of Richard West, by Ann his wife, died December 24, 1768, aged 6 months.		Sam. Onion, clerk, died 19 March, 1693. Isabel Wych, Dec. 25, 1722. John Wych, May 18, 1734, aged 88.
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PARISH OF BROMYARD.

BROMYARD is bounded on the west by Bridenbury and Pencomb; on the south-west by Stoke Lacy; on the south-east by Stanford Bishop; on the east by Whitbourn; and on the north by Edwin Ralph, in the hundred of Wolphey.

The manor of Bromyard belonged very anciently to the see of Hereford, and is thus surveyed in Domesday, amongst the other possessions of the church.

“ Terræ ecclesiæ de Hereford. In Plegeliet Hund: In Bromgerbe sunt 30 hidæ: ex his, 3 hidæ sunt et fuerunt wastæ: aliæ geld: in dominio sunt 4 carucata et 42 villarii, et 9 bordarii cum 39 carucatis. Ibi 6 servi et molindinum de 10 solidis, et 12 acra prati. Silva est ibi nil reddens. De hoc manerio tenent 3 milites episcopi 9 hidas et 1 virgata; et duo presbyteri 1 hidam; et capellanus 1 hidam et 3 virgatas; et prepositus 1 hidam; et radmannus 1 hidam: In dominio habent 2 carucatas et dimid, et homines eorum habent 20 carucatas. Unus eorum habet 2 servos et

A. D.
1086.

3 acras prati. T. R. E. et post, et modo, valuit totum manerium 45 libras et 10 solidos."

A. D.
1391.

Free warren was granted to the Bishop of Hereford here 14 Richard II.* and a few years after the Dean and Chapter had assize of bread and other privileges granted them.

The manor, still continuing in the possession of the church, affords not many materials for history. It appears that the site and emoluments of it were leased out, A. D. 1444, by Richard (Beauchamp) Bishop of Hereford, for a term of twenty-nine years, to Richard Abyngdon, gentleman, at the rent of 66s. 8d.

"Hæc indentura facta inter Ricardum Dei gratia Hereford: Episcopum ex parte unâ, et Ricardum Abyngdon, gentleman: ex parte alterâ, testatur quod pred: Ricus episc: tradidit, concessit et ad firmam dimisit prefato Ricardo et assignatis suis, situm manerii de Bromyarde cum omnibus domibus super eundem situm edificatis, &c. omne et omnimodo emolument: &c. ratione venditionis et emptionis, &c. et unam croftam vocatum *Longforde Croft* jacent: juxta Bromyarde Downe, &c. ad terminum 29 ann: reddend: inde annuatim 66 solid: et 8 denar: equis portionibus ad festa Penthecost: et sci Mich: Archang:—Dat. apud Whitborne, 26 Jun. 22 Hen. VI."†

The following is also a copy of the lease of a burgage granted for twenty-four years, to John Hunt and Thomas his son.‡

"Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Johannes, permissione divinâ, Episcopus Hereford: salutem in dominio sempiternam: Noveritis nos concessisse et tradidisse Johanni Hunte, de Bromyarde, et Thomæ filio suo, unum omnem

* Rot. Tur. M. 12.

† Bishops Register.

‡ Ibid.

burgagium cum edificiis et pertinentibus suis in villâ nostrâ de Bromyard, quod nobis accedebat post mortem Margeriæ uxoris Rogeri — isdem Johanni et Thomæ et assignatis dicti Johannis, de nobis et successoribus nostris, ad terminum quatuor viginti annorum, reddendo inde annuatim sex denarios argenti ad festum sancti Michaelis, &c. In cujus test. Sigil: nostrum apposuimus his testibus,—Mag. Reginaldo Wolston, Can: Heref: Johanne Ewyas, Stephano Brown, et multis aliis."

The parish is very extensive, and formerly consisted of the townships of Bromyard, Linton, Norton, Winslow, Wacton, Grendon, and Stanford: of these, the two last, having received the augmentation of Queen Anne's bounty, are detached from the mother church, and also maintaining their own poor, &c. are now considered as separate parishes. Several inferior manors were comprised in these townships, but the successive bishops appear to have been deemed chief lords of the whole.

In Linton township is BROCKHAMPTON, which is situated two miles east from the town of Bromyard, and anciently gave name to a family, of whom Robert de Brockhampton lived early in the thirteenth century.* Richard, his son, granted Brockhampton, with the advowson of the chapel, to Robert de Furches.

A. D.
1220.

"August 14, 1283, Richard Swinfield, Bishop of Hereford, granted seizen to Robert de Furches of the lands in Brockhampton, in our manor of Bromyard, with the advowson of the chapel, which he lately bought of Richard, son of Robert de Brockhampton, saving to the bishop the rights thence due and accustomed, one relief and heriot."†

1283.

* Bishop Swinfield's Register.

† Ibid. fol. 5.

After the Furches, the Solers family had Brockhampton; and of these, Laurence de Solers presented to the chapel of Brockhampton, A. D. 1349.* Soon after this date, "Dominus Thomas Moyne, miles," held Brockhampton; about which time lived Ralph Moigne, knt. of Rowden, in this parish; he preceded a family which assumed the name of Rowden, from their possessions. The male line of the Moignes or Moynes, became extinct on the death of Ralph, whose heiress married into the family above-mentioned: it seems therefore probable that the Rowdens succeeded to Brockhampton also, but no decisive evidence of their possessing it, has hitherto been met with, and since that period it seems to have passed through various hands. In the first year of Elizabeth, this manor was stated to be held of the crown by the tenth part of a knight's fee, of the honour of Richard's Castle:

"Anno 1 Eliz. Manerium de Brockmanton tenetur de dominâ Reginâ per decimam partem unius feodi militis, de honore de Castro Ricardi."†

In the time of Bishop Bennet, who succeeded Dr. Westfaling in this see, A. D. 1602, the Gages had this property, and "I have seen a note (says Silas Taylor),‡ by which the steward of Bishop B. had orders to call Mr. Gage to do his homage." Whether this was complied with or otherwise, is not added.

Brockhampton next belonged to John Barneby, esq. of the ancient family of that name, whose residence was at the Hill, in Worcestershire. Dying A. D. 1666, he was interred in the church of Bromyard, and was succeeded by his son Richard, who was born, A. D. 1647, and was noticed, with arms, &c. in the last

* Reg. Trilleck.

† Harl. MS. 762, at prius.

‡ MS. Harl. Bibl.

heraldic visitations of this county, which took place A. D. 1683. He married Isabella, daughter of Nicholas Lechmere, of Hanley Castle, in Worcestershire, esq. and had issue three sons, 1 John, 2 Nicholas, and 3 Richard; also one daughter, Penelope, who married Philip Lutley, of Lawton, in the county of Salop, esq. whose father, Bartholomew, was mentioned, with arms, &c. in the visitation of that county, A. D. 1663. John Barneby left Brockhampton, &c. to his nephew, Bartholomew Richard Lutley, by will, dated July 4, 1726. He married Betty, daughter of ——— Freeman, of Gaines, in this county, who dying A. D. 1785, was buried at Brockhampton. Her husband assumed the surname and arms of Barneby, by Act of Parliament, A. D. 1735, and dying A. D. 1783, was also buried at Brockhampton, leaving issue, 1 John, the present proprietor of Brockhampton, 2 Penelope, wife of Thomas Newnham, of Broadway, in Worcestershire, esq. 3 Abigail, 4 Philip, appointed Receiver General for the county of Hereford, and married A. D. 1810, to Eleanor, daughter of William Lilly, of Worcester, esq. 4 Lutley, 5 Richard, 6 Thomas. John Barneby the eldest son, married May 10, 1792, Elizabeth daughter of ——— Bulkely, of Uxbridge, esq. and has issue now living three sons and one daughter, viz. 1 Elizabeth, 2 John, 3 William, and 4 Edmund.

The arms of Barneby are, *sable*, a lion rampant, *argent*, between three escallops of the same.

The old mansion-house of Brockhampton is situated in a vale about half a mile further than the present residence, which has before been stated to be two miles east from Bromyard. It was formed chiefly of timber, and is still surrounded by a moat; having no other access than by a draw-bridge over it.

The modern building, which was elegantly erected with brick by Bartholomew Richard Barneby, is placed in an extensive lawn, commanding the Malvern Hills, and an agreeable and diversified prospect: the lodge at the entrance of the lawn is built of stone, on the model of the admired east front of Covent Garden Church, London.

The chapel is small, and consists of a nave and chancel: on the the ceiling of the latter are painted the arms of Barneby, impaled with *gules*, a fesse *or*, in chief, two swans *argent*. On escutcheons also, quartered the arms of Barneby with *or*, a lion rampant *azure*. Also *azure*, three lozenges *argent*, and *gules* a cross * between four lions heads *argent*, crowned.

A small and circular *Lavacrum* projects from the south wall; and on flat stones in the chancel are these inscriptions, over the family vault:—

Richard Barneby, of Brockhampton, esq.
died Feb. 14, 1719, aged 76.

Isabella his wife, daughter of Sir Nicholas
Lechmere, knt. of Handley Castle, in the
county of Worcester, died Aug. 10, 1729,
aged 40.

Nicholas Barneby, died **** aged 21.

Richard Barneby, June 20, 1700, aged 19.

John Barneby, Sept. 30, 1726, aged 43.

Mrs. Margaret Neale, widow, one of the
daughters of Sir Nicholas Lechmere, knt.
one of the Barons of his Majesty's Court
of Exchequer, died July 21, 1707, aged
46.

Bartholomew Richard Barneby, esq. died
Dec. 21, 1783, aged 70, and is interred in
this vault.—Also Betty, his widow, who
died May 14, 1785, aged 50.

WINSLOW Township is situated west from the town of Bromyard, and at a distance of two miles.

In this township is ROWDEN, the residence of a family of that name during several centuries. It is situated one mile and a half north-west from Bromyard, and is thus mentioned in the *Liber Feod: Tempore H. III.**

A. D.
1216.

* Harl. MS. ut prius, 5223.

“ In Rogedon una Hida, quam Johannes le Munigne tenet de Heredibus Adye de Botyler, de veteri feoffamento, per servitium militare, pro quintâ parti feodi, de honore de Kynton.”

A. D. 1274, Rowden was held by Ralph de Moigne* (Munigne), knt. who was lord of Netherwood, Thornbury, and other manors; he was succeeded by John, who was also a knight, and succeeded by his son Ralph, the third knight in this family, who dying left no male issue, but a daughter and heiress, Alice, married to Thomas Townlay. The arms of Moigne were, *or*: six birds, 3. 2. 1. †. Thomas Townlay was engaged in the service of the Earl of Lancaster, and left issue, 1 John, and 2 Thomas: John married Margery **** and had issue Richard, who was living 34 Edward III. Richard assumed the name of Rowden, and marrying Alice **** had issue William, who by Margery his wife, had issue John, first married to Ann, daughter and heiress of John Helyon, and secondly to Alice, daughter of ****. By his second wife he had issue Percival and Walter, who both died without issue, and Richard, who marrying Cecilia, daughter of ——— Arnold, had issue Henry and Richard, who both died without issue; and Frances, a daughter, married to Maurice Berkeley, of Gloucestershire. By his first wife (Ann daughter and heiress of James Helyon) John had issue three daughters, Alice, Elizabeth, and Agnes, and one son James, married to Joan, daughter of John Brown, by whom he had issue, John, who died *sine prole*; Ann wife of William Nicolleys, and Richard married to Sybil, daughter of John Baskerville. Richard had issue, 1 Anthony, 2 Thomas, 3 Walter, 4 Edward, 5 James, 6 Robert, 7 James; also four daughters, viz. Jane, Eleanor, Elizabeth, and

A. D.
1276.
1361.

* Herald. Vis.

† Ibid.

Margaret, wife of ——— Brydges. Anthony married Ann, daughter of Maurice Berkeley, of Gloucestershire, and had issue 1 Richard, and 2 Francis; Francis had three sons, 1 Thomas, 2 Francis, 3 John; and Richard (who was living 1634) marrying Mary, daughter of Thomas Bushill, of Gloucestershire, had issue, 1 Edward, 2 Francis, 3 John, and one daughter, Adey, wife of William Gough, of Worcestershire. Edward married Ann, daughter of Anthony Pembridge, esq. of Wellington, and dying A. D. 1651, left one daughter, Mary, and one son Anthony, born A. D. 1629. He married ***** who survived her husband, and was buried in Bromyard church, A. D. 1721; leaving issue a daughter and heiress, who married Timothy Brickenshaw, esq. and had issue two daughters only, of whom one died unmarried, and Mary the survivor, married Richard Hopton, of Canon Frome, in this county, esq. and brought Rowden into the possession of that ancient family. They had issue Richard Cope Hopton, esq. who died A. D. 1810, and their extensive property is now held by his widow.

HARDWICKE HALL, some time the seat of a respectable family of that name, is also situated in the township of Winslow. The house has been taken down several years, being sold with the estate about A. D. 1759, to the late Thomas Griffiths, of Ewithington, clerk, who afterwards resold part of it in different allotments, and bequeathed the remainder to John Lilly, clerk, the present proprietor. Inscriptions over some of the Hardwick family are given in the account of the church of Bromyard: and Richard Hardwick, esq. an eminent surgeon of Hereford, and mayor of that city A. D. 1787, died leaving no issue, A. D. 1794. In his youth he served professionally on board Admiral Hawke's ship, in the well-known engagement with Admiral Conflans, A. D. 1759.

A second chapel was erected in this township A. D. 1801. It is a neat building of stone in the Gothic style, with a tower and three bells. The expense was principally defrayed by Mr. Barneby and the Higginson family, who possess Buckenhill, Saltmarsh, and other estates in this parish and its vicinity. In a large vault are deposited the remains of — Higginson, esq. late of Saltmarsh, and one of the principal contributors to the building.

BUCKENHILL is situated in the township of Norton, and anciently belonged to the abbey of Wigmore. After the dissolution of religious houses, it passed by sale through different proprietors, and was held by the Flacketts in the beginning of the seventeenth century. Of these — Flackett sold Buckenhill, A. D. 1660, to John Tomkyns, esq. then a free burgess of Bromyard. The Tomkyns' were from Worcestershire, and John, the purchaser of Buckenhill, marrying a daughter of — Eyre, esq. (who was related to the Packingtons), had issue Nathaniel, who married a daughter of — Baynham, esq. and enlarged his property here by this alliance. He had issue Packington Tomkyns, who married Mary, a daughter and co-heiress of — Bohun, esq. of Newhouse, in Warwickshire, and had issue, 1 George, 2 Thomas, 3 Mary, 4 Richard, 5 Elizabeth. George died unmarried A. D. 1768, and was succeeded in the property here by his second brother Thomas. Mary and Elizabeth both died unmarried. Richard married Anne, daughter of Rowland Berkeley, of Cotherige, in Worcestershire, esq. and had one son, Richard, and one daughter, Ann, now living. Returning to Thomas, the proprietor of Buckenhill, he married Anne, daughter of Thomas Handley, esq. one of the clerks in the court of chancery, and had issue, 1 Elizabeth, who died unmarried, 2 Packington George, who succeeded his

A. D.
1661.

father, 3 Lucy, 4 Dolly, 5 Thomas, 6 Maria, 7 Richard. Packington George, Clerk, LL. D. and now living in Bath, married Margaret, daughter of Jonathan Green, of Ashford, in the county of Salop, LL. D. and had issue, 1 Thomas, a solicitor in Lincoln's Inn, 2 George, who is in the military service of the East India Company, 3 Bohun, who distinguished himself as a midshipman in the *Britannia*, Admiral Lord Northesk, at the age of thirteen, in the ever memorable battle off Trafalgar, October 21, 1805, but died afterwards of the measles on board that ship, A. D. 1808, 4 Richard, now a cadet at Woolwich, 5 Margaret, 6 Elizabeth, 7 Mary, 8 Louisa, 9 (still-born), 10 Decima, and 11 Packington. George Packington, the father of this family, sold Buckenhill, A. D. 1804, to Robert Higginson, esq. the present proprietor. The Tomkyns bear arms *azure*, a chevron *or*, between three pheasants of the same.

The mansion is situated in a pleasant lawn near the town, and received many additions, particularly a new front of brick, from Packington T. about A. D. 1730 : it has since been coloured to resemble stone, by Mr. Higginson. At the entrance into the hall are two handsome Corinthian pillars, each cut from one block of stone, brought from Inkberrow, in Worcestershire. Foundations of a much greater extent are met with near the house, and on an old bell, once used as a summons to dinner, but originally applied to religious purposes, was embossed this curious distich :

From fire I come, to call from fire of hell;
They'll dread the trump, that will not hear the bell.

In August 1670 a feast was given by John Packington, esq. to every man in the parish of Bromyard whose age exceeded seventy years ; and the following list of their names and ages, now preserved

in a memorandum book of the family, exhibits an unusual display of longevity :

“ At Bokenhul, in the parish of Bromyard, a feast, 1670, Aug.

“ The old men through the parish, who were above seventy years of age were the guests invited, at the several townships or holywaters, and the ages of most of them.”

BROMWARDINE.

John Ball, gent.	-	-	70.
Thomas Hall, gent.	-	-	74.
Charles Wedmister, gent.	-	-	78.
Thomas Yeomans, Clerk,	-	-	72.
John Huntewell	-	-	82.
Roger Powles	-	-	72.
Thomas Arundell	-	-	73.
Thomas Norman	-	-	91.
John Burdy, <i>fidler</i>	-	-	71.
William Parsons	-	-	76.
William Caffer	-	-	81.
Richard Rowles	-	-	71.
William Grundy	-	-	70.
John Linton	-	-	77.
William Grub	-	-	77.

NORTON.

Richard Colly, gent.	-	-	69.
—— Perry, gent.	-	-	72.
John Morris de Rea	-	-	72.
William Norgrove	-	-	82.
Thomas Wall	-	-	72.
James Oliver	-	-	71.
William Nott	-	-	79.

John Longland	-	-	72.
George Higgs	-	-	70.

LINTON.

Abraham Ball	-	-	75.
Roger Oliver	-	-	76.
Florice Tyler	-	-	76.
Thomas Williams	-	-	68.
George Arden	-	-	68.
Richard Pitt	-	-	76.
Richard Philpot	-	-	70.
—— Carter	-	-	80.
William Powell (<i>blind</i>)	-	-	90.
Evan Powell (<i>ditto</i>)	-	-	90.
Aaron Smith	-	-	78.
Roger Mason	-	-	78.
William Howell	-	-	75.
Thomas Walker	-	-	70.

WINSLOW.

Hugh Davis	-	-	80
Walter Bae	-	-	—
—— Astley	-	-	—

BRINGSTY.

John Philips (<i>the cook</i>)	-	-	71.
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A part of the property attached to Buckenhill was anciently called Ingstone, and a bridge near Bromyard still bears the name. Ingstone also gave name to a family of whom was a Sir John de

Ingstone, but the date is uncertain; his mansion probably stood on land since called the Pigeon-house Meadows, where traces of large foundations are still visible.

In WACTON township is a small chapel, containing nothing worthy of particular notice. The principal estate belongs to Richard Allison, esq. who acquired it by marriage with the daughter of Mr. Dowden, of Worcester, who purchased it from the widow of Mr. Edward Clerke, son of Mr. Matthew Clerke, in whose family part of the property had remained during several generations.

The TOWN of BROMYARD is pleasantly situated in a vale fourteen miles north-east from Hereford, twelve from Leominster, and fourteen from Worcester. It consists of about two hundred and twenty houses, and has a weekly market on Mondays, for grain, butter, poultry, &c. It was formerly a borough town, and was governed by a bailiff, whose appointment is thus recorded in Bishop Bowler's Register:—"A. D. 1451. Johannes Smith de Bromyard, ordinatus erat in presentia domini apud Glocestriam Ballivus Burg: de Bromyarde predict: et fecit jurament: cons:" A free burgess is a person who, by inheritance or purchase, is possessed of a burgage tenure; and these appearing at the courts leet and baron, and making oath of their qualifications before the steward and the jury, are admitted on the payment of a fee, and their names enrolled in the records. In the reign of Edward I. it sent two burgesses to Parliament, viz. Reginald le Shodner and John le Machon, but, like other small towns, this privilege was withdrawn from them at their own request, which stated their inability to defray the expenses of their representatives. The number of burgesses is about one hundred and twenty: they still in a corporate capacity elect a master to the free grammar school, and indi-

vidually send their commodities to the market toll-free. It is also generally spoken of as one of the oldest market towns in this part of England; but the date of the charter has not been met with.

The commissioners appointed 12 Henry VI. returned the name of "Johan: Mortimer de Bromyard" in the list of the gentry of this county, at that period. He was patron of the church of Collington, and presented to it A. D. 1445 and 1463. Oliver Cromwell, granted a charter for three fairs in Bromyard every year, and the tolls thence arising were appropriated towards the sustenance of the poor. These fairs are called the Three Thursdays Fairs, and continue to be held on the Thursdays before the 25th of March, the 25th of July, and 20th of October.

No manufactory of consequence is carried on in the town or parish.

Queen Elizabeth founded a free grammar school here, and endowed it with £16 per annum, which sum is still paid by the Auditors of the Exchequer. To this endowment John Perrin, esq. Alderman of London, added by his last will and testament, bearing date Feb. 17, A. D. 1756, £20 per annum, payable out of his rents at East Acton, in the county of Middlesex. This augmentation is vested in the Goldsmiths' Company of London, as trustees, for the purposes above-mentioned. The successive masters of the school are elected by the burgesses, approved of by the Goldsmiths' Company, and licensed by the bishop. The following form of election is recorded in the register of Bishop Croft, A. D. 1661:

"We whose names are hereunto subscribed, free burgesses of the borough of Bromyard, and thereby interested in the choice of a master for the free grammar school of Bromyard, do hereby

declare our choice of Richard Smith, A. B. as Master of the free school aforesaid, whom we do commend unto the auditor or auditors of his Majesty's Exchequer, for receiving the stipend formerly paid to the Master of the said school of Bromyard. As witness our hands this 27th June, A. D. 1661.

JOHN BARNEBY,
ANTHONY ROWDEN,
JOHN BALL,
JAMES CLARKE, *Vicar of B.*
JOHN BAYNHAM,
JOHN TOMPKYNS,
JOHN WILLIAMS,
ANTHONY BAYNHAM,

THOMAS WILLIAMS,
MATTHEW BARROW,
PEREGRINE JONES,
ISAAC WORRALL,
GREGORY COLLINS,
RICHARD PERRINS,
AND
HUMPHREY DAVIES."

The school is contiguous to the church-yard, and on a small oblong stone, in front of the building, is this incscription,—

“Εαν ησ φιλομαθησ εση πολυμαθησ.”

A second free school was also founded by Phineas Jackson, vicar, who by will, dated Nov. 16, 1681, left the sum of £40 to build a school-house, and endowed it with a meadow, called *Liver's Croft*, and situated in the township of Winslow; the annual rent of which is now £8. The meadow is vested in the hands of successive trustees for the purpose of paying a school dame, to be annually elected by the ministers, churchwardens, and overseers.

The PARISH of Bromyard (including the town) contains two hundred and seventy-eight houses rated to the window duties, and about half that number unrated. The soil consists generally of a loamy clay towards the north, and approaches nearer to a loose gravel on the south and east. It contains little waste ground, except that called *Bromyard Down*, which is situated nearly one mile east from the town, and comprehends about three hundred acres. Elm is the principal timber.

The population has been doubled within the last one hundred and fifty years.

During the war between Charles I. and the Parliament, the royal army, with the king in person, marched from Worcester towards Hereford, in order to relieve the latter place, then closely besieged by the Scotch army acting as auxiliaries to the Parliamentary forces. On this occasion the king and the court all lay at Bromyard, on Wednesday, the 3d Sept. 1645, and the army in the field. On the following day the king proceeded to Hereford.*

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The Church of Bromyard includes three portionists, or prebendaries, a vicar, a deacon, and six lecturers. The bishop's palace (in which Charles I. was entertained, and which afterwards was appropriated to the use of the vicars), adjoined the church yard on the south-west, and the portionists still have houses contiguous to the church. The lectures were founded by Alderman Perrins, for a sermon every Monday morning; and he directed the lecturers to be chosen by the church-wardens and twelve "chiefest" inhabitants of the town, and from the beneficed clergy in or nearest to Bromyard. It was anciently stiled a collegiate church, but Bishop Trilleck (who succeeded Dr. Charlton in the see of Hereford, A. D. 1343), made an entry in his register to this effect:—
"Ecclesia de Bromyard est ecclesia parochialis, et non ecclesia collegiata, sed porcionaria, et sunt 3 porciones in eadem et vicaria

* Symond's Notes, &c.—British Museum, Bibl. Harl. 944.

cum decimâ in eadem, communiter nuncupatæ, prima portio, secunda, et tertia, quæ quidem porciones de anno in annum separatim equaliter currunt; nec habet sigill: commun: cistas, campanas, vel domos communes, vel capitularem pro communibus tractatibus, sive decanum perpetuum, magistrum, custodem, vel alium tanquam caput, nec habet aliquâ alia jura sibi accidentia, &c.

The bishop has the appointment of portionists; and the portionists, or a majority of them, nominate the vicar and deacon of Bromyard, and a curate to each of the chapels of Stanford, Wacton, and Grendon.

The first portion is valued in the *Liber Regis* at £5, with glebe, worth 5s. per annum. To this are annexed certain tithes of grain in Stanford and Grendon.

A. D.	PORTIONARIES.	A. D.	PORTIONARIES.
1297	John de Brompton.	1321	John de Crillet.
1297	Roger de Denenake.	1321	— de Lugwardyne.
1298	Peter de Salem.	1323	Thomas de Sellek.
1298	Richard de Swynsend.	—	Robert de Cockynge.
1299	Roger de Genenoke.	1350	Thomas de Trilleck.
1300	Gilbert de Gurnest.	1355	Peter de Wotton.
1307	Stephen de Ganeth.	1362	Roger de Stone.
1311	Thomas de la Felde.	1387	*John Bodneston.
1313	Stephen de Stanford.	1408	Robert Thrysk.

N. B. The form of admission to the above does not particularise which prebend or portion was appointed to; in the following lists, that deficiency is supplied.

* In the instances marked thus, the crown, having taken charge of the temporalities of the see, appointed portionists.

FIRST (OR ASTLEY) PORTION.

A. D.	PORTIONARIES.	A. D.	PORTIONARIES.
1390	Thomas de Monte.	1540	John Browne.
1393	John Whitney.	1556	John Smith.
1399	Nicholas Godwin.	1560	John Powell.
1399	Thomas Dyde.	1563	James Perrott.
—	John Shirford.	1568	William Benson.
1416	Richard Blythe.	—	Charles Nicholas.
1420	Alan Byrton.	—	—
1428	John Wodeword.	—	—
—	John Langton.	—	—
1434	Alan Arketon.	1665	*William Cooke.
1443	Humphrey Everton.	1690	Thomas Cooke.
1465	William Chapman.	1704	Richard Langford.
1481	John Gerney.	1732	John Griffiths.
—	—	1745	Richard Chambers.
—	—	1776	Daniel Price.
1530	Thomas Mylling.	1794	Robert Strong.

SECOND (OR OVERCOURT) PORTION.

The second portion is valued at £.6 with glebe worth 3s. 4d. per annum. This has tithes in Wackton, Munderfield (an estate in the township of Winslow), and Collington.

A. D.	PORTIONARIES.	A. D.	PORTIONARIES.
1399	Richard Talbot.	—	—
—	John Boteller.	—	Barnabas Bennet.
1401	John Rede.	1615	Gabriel Walwyn.
1426	John Dudley.	1664	*Thomas Birch.
1451	Richard Pedde.	—	Edmund Skinner.
1451	John Clove.	1678	Francis Stedman.
1507	William Webb.	1689	Thomas Broade.
1508	John Smith.	1709	Francis Broade.
1549	John Powell.	1727	John Evans.
—	John Cuthbert.	1749	Joseph Brown, D. D.
1565	Charles Nicholas.	1754	Sir Peter Rivers, bart.
—	—	1790	Gabriel Tahourdin.

THIRD (OR MIDDLECOURT) PORTION.

The third portion is also valued at £.6 with glebe worth 6s. 8d. per annum, having tithes in Brockhampton, and of a second estate called Munderfield.

A. D.	PORTIONARIES.	A. D.	PORTIONARIES.
1366	Roger de Oty.	1556	William Bland.
1389	*Richard Thrylay.	1564	Ralph Griffin.
—	Thomas Thrysk.	159*	William Wynne.
1412	William Lingham.	159*	Thomas Barre.
—	John Hereford.	—	—
1420	William Coly.	—	—
—	John Porter.	—	—
1449	Thomas Tanfield.	1699	Anthony Whistler.
1451	Richard Beckingham.	1700	Edward Mason.
1504	John Smith.	1739	Samuel Croxall.
—	Thomas Maycroe.	1752	William Dicken.
1523	John Viall.	1766	Hugh Price.
1524	William Marbull.	1767	John Evans.
1556	Robert Parkhurst.	1783	George Cope.

Part of the service of the church was perhaps once performed by the deacon, and his emoluments consist of one shilling and one bushel of mixed corn, payable from each yard-land (20 acres) in Grendon Bishop. The following appointment from the register of Bishop Beauclerc, expresses the only condition on which it has lately been held; A. D. 1776, Joseph Tayler, clerk, was appointed "as of old," to the office of deacon of the church of Bromyard, void by the death of Richard Chambers, clerk, "with all the emoluments arising from the parish or township of Grendon Bishop or elsewhere, provided that he, the said deacon,* find good

* The bell ropes provided by the deacon are five only in number, the sixth being provided by the parish. The deacon also collects alms at the communion table, and reads the second lesson in the service of the church when the bishop holds a confirmation in it.

and sufficient bell ropes for the church of Bromyard, and discharge all other the accustomed duties of the said deacon." The appointment was signed by "Daniel Price and Peter Rivers Gay, Portionaries," and the deacon was licensed by the bishop.

The vicarage was assessed "*cum capellis*," to the *Nonarum*, 14 Edward I. in the sum of £.15 18s. 8d. and was before taxed at sixty-seven marks. Three messuages and four carucates of land (probably the houses and glebe of the portionists) were included in the assessment. In the *Liber Regis* the vicarage is estimated at £.9 10s. 7½d. per annum, and has uniformly been presented to by the portionaries as above-mentioned: the present value is about £.450 per annum. A new and commodious vicarage house has been built by the the present incumbent, Dr. Cope, at an expense of £.1200. The great tithes are divided amongst the portionists of Bromyard and the Dean and Precentor of Hereford.

A. D.	LIST OF VICARS.
1320	Richard de Villa.
1347	Robert de Cowerne.
—	Thomas Hay.
1404	John Parry.
1410	John Sleyford.
1413	John Pacey.
1414	John Wylyngeston.
1414	John Webbe.

A. D.	LIST OF VICARS.
1425	Edmund Reyhale.
1426	Thomas Horsnet.
1448	Thomas Gorewode.
1450	John Horsnett.
1481	Richard Oldbury.
1482	Thomas Clerke.
	AND
1530	Robert Barrett.

(FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS).

1538	*Robert Barnes.
1620	Theophilus Emily.

1636	Richard Cole.
1660	James Clarke.

* Robert Barnes was vicar during 82 years, and his name appears to parochial registers annually, the whole of that period. One of the churchwardens also continued from 1538 to 1600, inclusive.

A. D.	LIST OF VICARS.	A. D.	LIST OF VICARS.
1667	Phinees Jackson.	1732	John Guest.
1681	*Thomas Fox.	1760	Thomas Evans.
1728	John Fox.	1767	Digby Cotes.
1728	Thomas Fox.		AND
1729	Richard Chambers.	1793	George Cope.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and is a large building principally in the Saxon stile, consisting of a nave, and two side aisles, a chancel, and tower with six bells: part of it appears of as early a date as the Norman Conquest. The tower is situated between the nave and the chancel. The pillars dividing the north aisle from the nave appear more ancient than those towards the south.

Sir John Baskerville (who lived about A. D. 1400) endowed a chauntry in this church, with lands and tenements of the clear yearly value of £.3 9s. 11d.; and Sir Hugh Watcham endowed a second with the rents of several tenements worth £.1 15s. 9d. per annum. The service of these chauntries was performed at the east end of the two ailes, and they will be further noticed hereafter. An acre of arable land (thence called Lamp-Acre) was appropriated to the purpose of burning a lamp in memory of some obit: the situation of the lamp was, perhaps, in a small recess, communicating with the chancel by a door on the west, and since made use of as a vestry.

In the south wall of the chancel is the *Lavacrum*, under a pointed arch, and on flat stones within the communion rails are the following inscriptions:

* Thomas Fox was Archdeacon of Hereford, and resigned the living in favour of his son John, A. D. 1728. John, however, dying the same year, his father was again presented, but he also died a few months after.

John Colly, 1663.

Richard Colly, of Norton, died July 18, 1681.

Ann, wife of Timothy **** 1700.

Mary, wife of Thomas Fox, Archdeacon of Hereford, died 1721.

John Shansbury, Feb. 22, 1731.

William Charlett, gent. Jan. 9, 1683.

John Guest, vicar of Bromyard, died March 8, 1760, aged 64.

Mary, his relict, died Sept. 13, 1777, aged 72.

Under the North Wall.

Mrs. Mary Charlett, widow, Feb. 3, 1702, aged 56.

William, son of the above, Oct. 18, 1693, aged 14.

North Wall.

Arms.—*Gules*, 3 lions rampant, *argent*, impaled with *or*, a fesse, *sable*, between three foxes heads of the same.

Letitia Pauncefort (daughter of Dr. George Howe, and relict of Robert Pauncefort, esq. of Clatter Park, in this county, one of the Council to his present Majesty Geo. II.; Attorney General to his Royal Highness Frederic Prince of Wales, and steward of the manors of Kennington and Berkhamstead)—A woman endowed with all the excellencies that might dignify the duties of a private station, and become the character of a wife, a parent and a friend, &c.—Reader, if thou knewest her worth, weep thy own loss; if not, weep that thou didst not know her. She died June 28, 1753, and this stone was erected to her memory by her son.

Arms.—Quarterly 1, *sable*, lion passant, *argent*, between 3 escallops of same.—2, *or*, a lion rampant, *sable*.—3, *sable*, lion rampant, *or*.—4, as second; the whole impaled with *azure*, 3 lozenges, or fusils, *or*.

Richard Bartholomew Barneby, esq. died Dec. 21, 1783, aged 70. His remains were deposited in the family chapel at Brockhampton, and this monument was placed here by his afflicted widow.

Betty, his relict, died May 14, 1785, aged 50.

Arms.—*or*, a chevron, *gules*, between three foxes heads of the same, impaled with *sable*, a chevron, *or*, between 3 foxes heads of the same.

Thomas Fox, A. M. Heref. Archidiac: venerandus hujus ecclesiæ necnon vicarius dignissimus, animam Deo reddidit, Dec. 5, A. D. 1728, ætat. 80.

Johannes fil: ejus, M. D. et Eleanora, uxor quam charissima, eodem hic sepulchro conduntur.—Ille obiit July 25, 1728, æt. 47.—Illa obiit March 15, æt. 37.

Joseph Sterling, gent. a native of Linton, but late of Chiswick, in the county of Middlesex, died April 5, 1781, in the 76th year of his age, and was interred here.

James Dansie, esq. (late of Conduit-street, Hanover-square, London) died Nov. 17, 1784, aged 67.—Mary, his widow, Oct. 30, 1802, aged 85.

South Wall.

Arms.—A chevron between 3 heifers heads.

In this Chancel were interred the bodies of John Baynham, esq. who died June 4, 1636, aged 70.

Elizabeth, his wife, Feb. 12, 1655, aged 66.

Edward, their son and heir, Jan. 10, 1652, aged 42.

Mary, his wife, June 16, 1560, aged 30.

Also, John, their son, May 24, 1671, aged 32.

Frances, his wife, July 10, 1683.

And Anthony B. Jan. 23, 1798.

Infra jacet Dionysius Emily gen. qui obiit 15 Die Mar. A. D. 1624, æt. suæ 86.

Ann, relict of Mr. Wm. Wynne, and daughter of the Rev. J. Guest, A. M. died Oct. 26, 1807, aged 83.

Susannah, daughter of Wm. Bissell, of the Hill-Top, gent. died August 169*.

William, son of Wm. Bissell, Nov. 18, 1720, aged 57.

John Bissell, late quarter-master-general in General Garth's regiment of Dragoons, died Jan. 21, 1729, aged 27.

John, his son, died an infant.

Joyce, wife of William Bissell, Oct. 20, 1724, aged 62.

John Rumney, gent. died April 19, 1768, aged 70.

Elizabeth, daughter of Paul Rumney, Oct. 16, 1699.

Ann, wife of Paul, July 7, 1708.

Paul R. gent. Oct. 1745, aged 78.

Ann Gibbons, Feb. 5, 1675.

On an alabaster Stone, with a carved border.

J***** Barneby, arm. de Brockhampton, obiit 1666.

Johannes Barneby, obiit *** April ****

Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Perring, late of Bedford, May 20, 1731, aged 64.

Mary, daughter of Thomas Tompkins, of Bucknell, esq. April 17, 170*.

Thomas Gough, gent. December 13, 1726, aged 40.

On a small brass plate.

William Davis, died March 22, 1761, aged 90.

Elizabeth, his first wife, died June 22, 1721, aged 54.

Ann, his relict, Nov. ** 1766.

On a plate of the same.

This plate was here affixed by John Freeman, gent. in order to renew the memory of John Arden, of Gaines, gent. whose epitaph was erased, and grave stone injuriously removed.—The above John Arden was interred Oct. 15, 1686.

N. B. There have been several other inscriptions in the chancel but the characters are now obliterated, through the very perish-

ing quality of the stone on which they have been inscribed.

Nave.—On flat stones.

John Williams, gent. 1674.

Mary Baylis, April 7, 1777, aged 75.

Mary, wife of William Hurdman, Dec. 28, 1746, aged 46.—Also William Hurdman is here interred.

Thomas Jones, of the Orchard, June 6, 1726.

Thomas, son of John, March 4, 1720, aged 56.

—— Hall, widow, aged 78.

—— Collins.

* * * wife of William Nott.—Also William Nott, May 29, 1773.

Ann Collins, 1778.

Daniel Farnham.

John Farnham.

John Farnham, died April 4, 1737.—Ann, his wife, May 29, 1746, aged each 82 years.

West Wall.

John Dabitoit, gent. died Nov. 25, 1759, aged 69.

Thomas, his brother, died Sept. 5, 1758, aged 63.

North Aisle.—On flat stone.

John Arden, 1645.

South Aisle.—On flat stones.

John William, died 1777, aged 68.

Elisha Reeve, Jan. 1758.

—— Reeve, — 1769.

William Smith, Dec. 30, 1698.

Joan, his wife, March 170*

South Wall.

Mrs. Jane Clark, wife of Matthew Clark, of Wacton, gent. died Aug. 9, 1760, aged 76.

Jane, eldest daughter of Edward Clark, by Jane his wife, died June 8, 1772, aged 17.

East Wall.

Mr. Joseph Severne, surgeon, &c. died Sept. 23, 1805, aged 64.

The Chapels for the service of the Chauntries above-mentioned, are situated at the east end of the aisles, from which, and the nave, they were separated by an oak screen much carved, and ornamented with foliage, &c.—They are loftier than the aisles and built in the opposite direction of north and south; their roofs are also formed of carved oak, with roses, &c.—That communicating by a door with the south aisle, contains the usual *Lavacrum*, and a pointed sepulchral arch in the south wall, against which are also these inscriptions:—

Thomas Hallward, late of Wacton Court,
died April 22, 1760.

Jane, his wife, Sept. 2, 1769.

East Wall.

Thomas Bowley, gent. April 23, 1657.

Roger Sale, gent. late of Munderfield Harold, in this parish, Feb. 22, 1766, aged 95.

George Sale, his nephew, was interred May 2, 1780, aged 36.

In the east windows are two small figures, probably of some religious: round one of them are four fleur de lis on *azure* ground, but no coat nor shield.

On flat stones.

Edward Rowden, perantiquâ Stirpe de Row-

den, generosus, &c. obiit 27, Aug. 1651, ætat 85.

Under the inscription, and on the same stone, are inlaid brass effigies of Edward Rowden in armour, and three females, with their hands clasped on their breasts; and below

Anthony Rowden, of this parish, esq. March 8, — aged 62.

— widow of Rowden, esq. Oct. 1721.

Henry Jackson, of Wells, clerk, December 12, 1685.

Edwin Sandys, esq. April 28, 1705.

The North Chapel has also a pointed sepulchral arch in the north wall, and in the north east corner is an altar tomb, having a male effigies in armour inscribed on it, and round the verge in old characters, this inscription, with the Baskerville arms:—

(*West side*).—Hic jacet Jacobus | (*North*).—Baskerville arm. qui obiit 8 Die Mensis

(*East*).—Februarii, A. D. | 1579: Cujus Anim: ppitietur Deus: Amen.—Who had to wife Dame Willotin * * * *

On flat stones.

John Hardwicke, gent. died May 5, 1682, aged 54.

Richard, son of Richard Hardwicke, and Ann his wife, A. D. 1731.

— Hardwicke, of Hardwicke. —

Richard Hardwicke, Sept. 1778.

Ann, wife of — Haylings 1748.

Catherine Colly, of Winslow, Nov. 12, 1772.

— daughter of Richard Clarke of Wacton, 1676.

— Clarke, 1628.

Jane Tompkins, daughter of Packington Tompkins, of Buckenhill, and Elizabeth his wife, died March 10, 17*3.

BENEFACTIONS, &c.

(From a Table on the South Wall.)

JOHN PERRINS, late alderman of the city of London, left by will the sum of £.52 per annum to this parish, to be paid for ever out of his lands and tenements at East Acton, in the county of Middlesex, viz. £.26 per annum to maintain a weekly lecture in this church; £.5 to the poor; 20s. to the parish clerk; and £.20 for the augmentation of the grammar school of Bromyard.

RICHARD BROWNE, gent. by will left the third part of his messuage or tenement in the town of Bromyard, called Dumbleton Hall, with its appertenances, &c. to the poor of Bromyard for ever.

ISAAC AILWAY, late rector of Eastbach, gave by deed 20s. per ann. for ever, to buy three coats for three poor men.

SAMUEL MEADOWCOURT, left by will 5s. per ann. to the poor of Bromyard, and 5s. to the poor of Linton, to be paid out of the rent of his house at Nunwell.

ELEANOR ECKLEY, spinster, gave one acre and a half of land. N. B. A. D. 1678, Four parcels of land were purchased for the use of the poor, by and with such small legacies as were formerly given by several persons deceased.

PHINEES JACKSON, late vicar of Bromyard, left—1st, the yearly profits of his meadow at Jukston's Bridge, to maintain a school dame to teach poor children of this town

and parish to read, knit, and sew plain work; 2dly, £.6 out of his messuage or tenement, called The Wells, to buy penny wheaten bread, to be distributed to the poor as follows—40s. worth on Feb. 16, Sept. 17, and Dec. 6; 3dly, 20s. per annum out of the same to entertain the procession in the rogation week, when they come to the township of Winslow.—4thly, all the rents and profits of his tenement (except 20s. per annum), situated near Bromyard Down, with the Leasow or Pasture, called Bolter's Croft, viz 20s. to the three townships, to buy six coats for the poor inhabitants of the town, and the residue to buy seven coats for the seven poor people in the alms-house.—5thly, a meadow at Broad-Bridge, to buy three good bibles per annum, for the poorest sort of young people of the parish, who shall best rehearse the Catechism of the Church of England in the lent.—6thly, a meadow called Tilbury Moor, to provide a piece of roasted beef with table beer and bread on these days, viz. Sept. 17, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, and Feb. 16.

WILLIAM AWBREY, gent. left out of his estate at Collington £.5 a year, to be paid to the poorest persons in Bromyard for ever.

(Signed)

WILLIAM WESTON, } Churchwardens,
ROGER SALE. } A. D. 1715.

The church had formerly stalls, not only for the use of the portionists, but also for fifteen other priests, who attended on each Whitsunday from as many neighbouring churches, and assisted in the performance of service here, acknowledging this to be the mother church, and submitting to be amerced in 6*s.* 6*d.* each, if absent. Of fines thus incurred, one half was paid to the first portionist, who was occasionally called the dean, and the other half was equally divided between the second and third portionists.*

It has generally been understood that the celebrated William of Wykeham was a portionist here; but his name has not been found in the episcopal registers; two laymen were portionists A. D. 1451, viz. Richard Pede and John Clove.

The whole fabric of the church was completely repaired, and the inside neatly pewed with deal in the year 1806, at an expense of nearly £.2000 to the parishioners: an organ has also been erected by Mr. Higginson, of Saltmarsh.

The town of Bromyard contains two other places of religious worship; the one belonging to a society of the people called friends, or quakers, and the other to a society of independents. The former assemble in a meeting-house, which was erected by one of their persuasion, and afterwards purchased by the community; and the latter in a chapel raised by subscription, about A. D. 1702, when Grimbald Pauncefort, of Clater Park, in this parish, esq. was a principal subscriber. The independents are much more numerous than the quakers. The endowments consist of £.600, bequeathed in legacies by different persons, and vested in the hands of trustees, who appropriate the interest, with a house and garden to

* Ancient MS. respecting the church.

the maintenance of their ministers. The following inscription, equally honourable to all the parties concerned, appears on a stone affixed to the front of their chapel:—

In memory of the Rev. Lewis Hopkins, a faithful minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and pastor of this church upwards of twenty years. He was called by death to receive his reward, May 10, 1789, in the

55th year of his age. This stone is erected as a monument of the last affection of a grateful people, and by it, “he being dead yet speaketh.”—Heb. 11. 4.

PARISH OF COLLINGTON.

COLLINGTON is bounded on the north by Stoke Bliss, on the west by Thornbury, on the south by Edwin Loach, and on the east by part of Worcestershire. Collington anciently comprised two parishes, distinguished by the additions of greater and less, but, for the reasons hereafter assigned, they were united in the fourteenth century. After the Norman Conquest, the one part belonged to the church of Hereford, and the other to Roger de Lacy, being thus surveyed in Domesday:—“In Plegeliet Hund: Terra ecclesiæ de Hereford:—In Collingtune sunt 3 hide geld: in dominio sunt 3 carucatae et 2 villarii et 4 bordarii cum 2 carucatis et dimid: ibi 2 acrae prati. T. R. E. et post et modo valuit 30 solidos. Hoc manerium et illum superscriptum *Brigge*, tenuit heraldus comes injuste. Rex Willielmus reddidit ea Waltero Episcopo.”

This extract refers to the greater Collington; and although it was restored, as above, to the church of Hereford by the Norman Conqueror, it is not enumerated in the property of the church on the taxation of A. D. 1292, nor in any later statements of its pos-

sessions. The restoration was probably superseded on the claims of the powerful family of Mortimer, who were lords of the adjacent manors of Northwood and Thornbury, and also held Collington at an early date. From the Mortimers this property came with their other extensive possessions, by attainder, to the crown, and was successively granted to Edward Duke of Somerset, to the Devereux family, Viscounts Hereford and Earls of Essex, and lastly to William Baskerville, of the ancient house of Eardisley, in this county. The Baskerville's sold it to Aubrey de Vere, Earl of Oxford, who resold it to William Pitt, of Kyre, in the county of Worcester, esq. in whose family it now remains, as will be particularised in the accounts of Thornbury and Netherwood.

Collington the less is thus noticed in Domesday :—" In Plegeliet Hund: Terra Rogeri de Laci. Idem Rogerus tenet Colintune et Hugo de eo: Uluard tenuit et quo volebat ire, poterat: Ibi 2 hidæ geld: in dominio est 1 carucata et 1 villarius cum dimid: caruc: ibi 2 servi. Valebat et valet 20 solid." This property passed in marriage with a Lacy heiress to a family who assumed the name of Collington. Of these Adam de C. held it in the reign of Henry III. when it was mentioned in the book of fees* made at that time, to consist of two hides, being the quantity named in the extract from Domesday :—" In Collynton continentur duæ hidæ quas Adam de Colynton tenet de castro Ricardi per servitium militare pro quartâ parte unius feodi militis."

A. D.
1086.

1216.

In the year 1262 William de Colinton witnessed a grant of annual rents in the parish of Stoke Bliss, from Hugh de Bles to Catherine de Lacy, Prioress of Aconbury, in this county.†

* Harl. MS. 5223.

† Register of Aconbury Priory:

The name of Collington does not afterwards occur in the provincial lists, &c. and early in the fourteenth century, Radulphus de Zedefen was patron* of the church of Collington, and held the manor : one of his name held Zeddefen (now Edwin) and Butterley, in this county, in the time of Henry III.†

The union of Collington *major* and Collington *minor* is thus stated in the Register of Bishop Trilleck :—

“ April 24, 1352, Radulphus de Zeddefen, patron of the church of Collington magna, Richard Carbonel, William Coly, Alice Alisaundre, and many others, petitioned for a junction of the two parishes : in the record it was advanced—‘ that so great and grievous hath been the late pestilence and plague, and so diminished the number of men (by which there is so great a scarcity of husbandmen and inhabitants) that these two parishes are brought into so low a condition, that the parishioners and revenues of both churches are scarce able to sustain one priest, &c.” It further stated other private inconveniences experienced by the inhabitants ; and in consequence, the bishop incorporated Collington magna with Collington parva ; and in consideration that the church of All Saints in the latter was a better and more convenient building, it was appointed the parochial church, and Ralph de Zeddefen and his heirs were invested with the united patronage. The incumbent nominated by him or them was to enjoy the profits of each, and the cure of souls in each to be incumbent on him. Soon after this date, Collington the less belonged to the Furches family,‡ passed from them, by an heiress, to the Lucys, of Warwickshire,§ and

A. D.
1347.

* Register Trilleck.

‡ Coningsby's MS.

† Harl. MS. 5223.

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was sold by them to Sir Thomas Coningsby, in the reign of Elizabeth, when the manor was thus held :—“ Anno 1 Eliz. Manerium de Collington tenetur de castro Ricardi per quintam partem unius feodi militis.”* From the Coningsbys this property came to the Capels Earls of Essex, &c. and was sold A. D. 1804, to Robert Higginson, esq. the present proprietor.

The soil of this parish is in general a loamy clay, producing hops, apples, and all kinds of grain. Collington brook rising in the upper part of the parish, works two corn mills, and joins the river Teme, in the parish of Tenbury. The turnpike-road from Bromyard to Tenbury passes through Collington from north to south, in length about a mile ; in an opposite direction the parish extends somewhat further.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Collington is a rectory, discharged in the *Liber Regis* from the payment of tenths, &c. In the taxation of 1286 it was valued at six marks and charged 5s. as a ninth : in that of 1292 it was estimated at the same, and charged 8s. In the *Liber Regis* it was valued at £.40 10s. per annum, and is now worth about £.120.

In the year 1667 the right of patronage was contended for by three claimants, and a jury of laymen and clergy having been appointed to investigate and decide on their several pretensions, returned that Edmund Pitts, of Kyre, esq. was the true patron, and that neither Humphrey Coningsby, esq. nor Thomas Baskerville, esq. had any

A. D.
1667.

* Harl. MS. 762.

right thereto. The jury consisted of H. Williams, of Clifford, esq. Thomas Rodd, of Moreton Jeffries, esq. Timothy Colles, of Hatfield, esq. John Boot, of Brampton, esq. Thomas Geers, of the Marsh, esq. John Carver, of Norton. Gent.; William Sherborne, D. D. Thomas Goode, D. D. John Boraston, Rector of Ribsford, Ralph Fenton, Rector of Ludlow, Daniel Witerley, Rector of Whitney, and Edward Witherstone, Rector of Bishop's Froome.

COLLINGTON MAJOR.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Hugh Balle - - -	1317 - -	John de Broke.
William Balle - - -	1349 - -	John la Breke.

COLLINGTON MINOR.

----- - - -	1226 - -	Philip de Asefore.
Portionaries of Bromyard - -	1307 - -	Bryan de Collington.
William de Upton - - -	1330 - -	Peter de Groete.
The same - - -	1331 - -	Robert de Stoke.
----- Zeddefen - - -	1349 - -	John Ffoyere.
Ralph de Zeddefen - - -	1352 - -	-----

COLLINGTON'S UNITED.

Ralph de Zeddefen - - -	1358 - -	Richard de la Felde.
The Bishop (by lapse) - - -	1396 - -	Nicholas Downe.
John Talbot - - -	1425 - -	Son of Robt. Henryson.
John Mortimer, of Bromyard - -	1445 - -	John Grene.
The same - - -	1463 - -	William Janye.
----- - - -	1471 - -	Thomas Horewode.
----- - - -	----- - -	Thomas Connop.
Sir Richard Croft, knt. and } Eleanor, his wife	1508 - -	Hugh Harris.
----- - - -	----- - -	Nicholas Smith.
The Bishop (by lapse) - - -	----- - -	John Lyghe.
Richard Croft, esq. - - -	1535 - -	Robert Morell.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Sir James Croft, knt. - -	1566 - -	William Steele.
John Baskerville, esq. - -	— - -	John Perkins.
James Pitts, esq. - -	1662 - -	Richard Parker:
— - -	— - -	Richard Wood.
Edward Pitts, esq. - -	1667 - -	John Goode.
Edward Pitts, of Kyre, esq. - -	1671 - -	Richard Woode.
Samuel Pitts, esq. - -	1703 - -	Francis Weaver.
The Crown - - -	1715 - -	Acton Thomas.
Edm. Pitts, esq. - -	1756 - -	William Hudson.
Jonathan Pitts, esq. - -	1789 - -	Henry Ingles.
The same - - -	1790 - -	John Gibbons Butler.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is situated half a mile east from the turnpike-road from Bromyard to Tenbury, and at the distance of four miles from the former. It is a very small building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and wooden cupola, with two small bells. In the chancel are these inscriptions:—

East Wall.

John Perkins, formerly rector of this parish, died Feb. 2, 1662, aged 74.

Richard Wood, minister of Collington, died March 27, 1703, in the 57th year of his age.

Acton Thomas, clerk, late rector of this church, whose highest dignities were his

exemplary virtues, died August 25, 1755, aged 74.

Also, Elizabeth his wife, was interred here October 2, 1720.—These memorials were erected by their daughter.

South Wall.

Thomas Barrett, jun. died Oct. 10, 1690, aged 2 years and 9 months.

Of the old church of Collington Magna, the arch over the door, and part of the foundations remained a few years since, but no traces are now left.

PARISH OF COWARNE MAGNA.

COWARNE MAGNA is bounded on the north by Stoke Lacy, and on the south-west by Ocle Pichard, on the south by Stretton Gransham (Grandison), and on the east by Frome-Bishop, both in the Hundred of Radlow.

A. D.
1086.

After the Norman conquest, Cowarne was held by Alured de Merleberge, and is thus noticed in Domesday :—

“ In Radelau Hund : Terra Aluredi de Merleberge.—Id Aluredus tenet Cuure : heraldus comes tenuit—ibi 15 hidæ geld : sed Rex Willielmus condonavit 6 hidas quietas a geldo.—Hoc manerium ten. filia Aluredi, Agnes, uxor Turstini de Wigmore : In dominio sunt 2 carucatæ, et presbyter et prepositus, et 26 villarii et 8 Bordarii : inter omnes, habent 32 carucas. Ibi 4 servi et faber et pratum et silva nil reddens, et 1 hida de hâc terrâ jacet in silvâ regis. Ad hoc manerium pert : tertius denarius de 3 Hund : T. R. E. modo ablatus est : tunc valuit 25 libr : modo 100 solid : minus.”

Thus it appears that Alured de Merleberge gave the manor of Cowarne (which had previously belonged to Earl Harold), with his daughter Agnes, on her marriage with Turstinus of Wigmore ; that there were two carucates in demesne, and thirty-two in the occupation of the tenants ; that one hide of land was situated in a wood belonging to the king ; that the third penny from three hundreds was anciently paid to the lords of this manor, but that the payment had been discontinued, and finally, that Cowarne previously yielded £.25 per annum, but at the date of Domesday book was estimated at £.20 only. From the Wigmore family,

Cowarne passed (probably by marriage,) to that of the Pauncefort's, which classed with the most ancient in the county. Eustachius Pauncefort held one fourth part of a knight's fee here, as early as A. D. 1109, and the name of Pauncefort's-court was acquired by the Cowarne property. In the book of knight's fees, compiled in the reign of Henry III. it is thus mentioned :

A. D.
1216.

“ In magnâ Cowarne continentur sex hidæ et dimid: unde Elen: Pauncefort tenet medietatem de Willo Breaus,* de veteri feoffamento de honore de Brecon : et Thomas de Avenbury alteram medietatem de honore de Brecon, in eodem modo.” Eleanor was succeeded by Richard Pauncefort, and in the year 1253 a marriage took place between Grimbald, son and heir of Richard, and Constantia, daughter of John Lingayn ; on which occasion the following contract was entered into, and a copy preserved in Mr. Blount's collections ; “ Die Jovis prox: post festum Sancti Jacobi A. D. MCCLIII convenit apud inter dominum Ricardum Pancefot et dominum Johannem de Lingayn sub hâc formâ, viz. quod Grimbaldus filius et hæres domini Ricardi Constantiam filiam dicti Johannis ducet in uxorem ; et quod idem Johannes dabit dicto Ricardo pro dicto matrimonio, sexies viginti et decem marcas, duodecim boves et centum oves. Et dictus Ricardus dabit dicto Grimaldo, centum solidatas terræ in manerio de Hatfield, de quibus dictus Grimbaldus dictam Constantiam dotabit ad ostium ecclesiæ, quando ipsam desponsavit. Concessit etiam predictus Ricardus se fore assign: nomine dotis predictæ Constantiæ, alias centum solidatas

* The name of this family was variously spelt, as Breaus, Braiose, and Briosa : several of them were sheriffs about this date.



terræ in predicto manerio de Hatfield per rationabiles extentas, &c. Hiis testibus, Henrico de Wyllaunton, Johe de Clifford, Hugone Carbonel, Thomâ Trosel, Willo de Westbury, Waltero de Helyun, et multis aliis.* From this document it appears that the fortune given with the bride, included six score and ten marks in money, twelve oxen, one hundred sheep, and one hundred solidat: of land, out of which her dower or settlement was to be fixed by her husband at the door of the church, as soon as the marriage ceremony was completed, together with one hundred more to be added by her father for the same purpose. The whole amount must have been very considerable at that time, and such as could only be expected between families of the first rank and opulence.

Impelled by the extraordinary but general enthusiasm of the times, this Grimbaldus distinguished himself in the expedition against Tunis, but being taken prisoner, a joint of his wife is supposed to have been demanded by the captor, as the only price of his liberty. The fame of her beauty might possibly have suggested this cruel ransom, and the lady, urged by affection for her husband, and by zeal in what was deemed a sacred cause, made no hesitation in complying with the terms proposed, by cutting off her left hand above the wrist, and forwarding it to her husband. This is supposed to have effected his release; and Grimbaldus and his wife, to whom he was so highly indebted, were buried at the east end of the south aisle of Cowarne church, and an altar monument, with their effigies erected over them. That of Grimbaldus was cross-legged, and habited after the Norman manner; whilst that of the lady exhibited her left arm couped above the wrist, in memory

* Blount's MS.

and confirmation of her heroic conduct. Some dispersed fragments of these effigies and monument remain at present, but in the sixteenth century they were examined by Mr. Silas Taylor, and the following is the account in his own words :*

——— “ to gainsay the report about it, I diligently viewed the accord which might have been between the two figures : the female laid next the wall of the south aisle, on her right side, by which means his left side might be contiguous to her right, the better to answer the figure ; also the stump of the woman’s arm is somewhat elevated, as if to attract notice ; and the hand and wrist, cut off, are carved close to his left side, with the right hand on his armour, as if for note.”

In the year 1281 this Grimbald Pauncefort obtained a charter for a market and fair in Cowarne, but they have long been discontinued. Grimbald, his son, was a knight of this shire 33 and 34 Edward I. A Roger Pauncefort was sheriff 7 Richard II. and in the tenth year of Henry VI. the grant of free warren in Cowarne was confirmed first to a Grimbaldus, and after to a John Pauncefort. No mention was made of this name in the commissioners return of gentry of Herefordshire, in the following year, notwithstanding John Pauncefort was sheriff of the county 16 Henry VI. It also appears singular that they were not recorded in the Heraldic Visitations, a circumstance which adds to the difficulties of collecting a full account of this very ancient and respectable family. Sir John Pauncefort, knt. was living about 1526, and married Eleanor, third daughter of Sir Giles Bruges, or Brydges, of Berkeley, in Gloucestershire. Richard Pauncefort resided here in

A. D.
1305.

1384.

1432.

1438.

* MS. Harl. Bibl.

A. D.
1547.

the reign of Edward VI. when several lands* (the rents of which were appropriated to the service of a chauntry in the church of Cowarne) were held of him. Robert Pauncefort also lived here

1650.

about 1650; his son and heir Grimbald married Gulielma Maria Brydges, and probably sold the family possessions in Cowarne, as they soon afterwards resided at Clater Park, in the parish of Bromyard. They had issue 1 Robert, 2 Brook; and four daughters, Mary, Grace, Elizabeth, and Rachael. Robert was one of the council to George II. and attorney general to Frederic Prince of Wales, &c. He married Letitia, daughter of George Howe, and dying before his lady (who was buried in Bromyard church 1753) left one son, Edward, his heir, who married Anne, daughter of Dr. Herbert Randolph, of Oxford. Edward served under the

1745.

Duke of Cumberland, at the battle of Culloden, and also in some of the expeditions against the coast of France. The portrait of a Major Pauncefort (probably this gentleman) was given by Hogarth in the engraving of the original performance of the Beggar's Opera, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, A. D. 1727. He died in Newmanstreet, London, A. D. 1794, leaving no issue. Mrs. Pauncefort, a maiden sister, died in Gloucester, A. D. 1807; her mother's name was Barnes; she married first Mr. Pauncefort (or Pauncefoote, as sometimes spelt), and secondly, — Fendall, esq. grandfather of the present William Fendall, of Gloucester, esq. By the death of Mrs. Pauncefort, daughter of the above, this branch of the family is supposed to be extinct; but another family of this name resided lately at Brickhill, in Buckinghamshire. The arms of Pauncefort are *gules*, three lions rampant, *argent*. Crest, a lion rampant.

* MS. Cantar-Mayle.

Since this family, Pauncefort Court has had various proprietors: The Scooles were succeeded in it by the Foxes (who also held Leighton, in this parish). It afterwards belonged to the Reeds, then to Mr. Goodwin, who married a daughter of Mr. Brabason, of Eyton, near Leominster, was afterwards purchased by the Coningsby family, and sold by the present Earl of Essex to the late Baladon Thomas, esq. of Hereford, and of Arlingham, in Gloucestershire, who dying A. D. 1809, was succeeded by his son, Francis Henry Thomas, esq. the present proprietor. The mansion is situated near the church, and between the two buildings a mound of earth was formerly thrown up, as a temporary security against hostile incursions, but it is now entirely levelled. In a parlour window of the house was painted this coat, party *per pale* and *gules*, a chevron *argent* (charged with a rose between two carnations, *gules*), between three trees fruited *or*.

An oak is now growing on this estate which measures in girth, at three feet six inches from the ground, thirty-eight feet six inches; it exhibits some appearance of decay at the top, otherwise appears sound. These dimensions are greater than the largest oak mentioned in Evelyn's *Silva*.

SYFERVAST, another estate in this parish, but now called COWARNE COURT, was anciently held by a family of that name. Sir John Syfervast died about the close of the fifteenth century, leaving a daughter and heiress, married to — Berrington, esq. in whose family this property remained during many generations: a full account of them is reserved for the history of Winslow and Wintercot, where they now reside. Syfervast (or Cowarne Court) was sold by the Berringtons about the year 1767, to Mr. Bell, of

Birmingham ; it was afterwards purchased by the late F. B. Thomas, esq. and is now the property of his son.

LEIGHTON, a third estate in Cowarne, belonged some time to the Foxes, of whom Charles Fox, esq. was secretary at the council in the marches of Wales, at the end of the sixteenth century. His second son Edmund possessed Leighton, and died A. D. 1617. It was afterwards purchased by the Bateman family, and was left by the late John Lord Viscount Bateman, of the kingdom of Ireland, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Hereford, &c. whose family will be further noticed in the Collections for Shobdon. The Foxes bore arms *argent*, a chevron erased between three foxes heads *gules*.

The soil of Cowarne approaches towards a gravel in the higher parts of the parish, and is a rich clay in the lower ; the latter is very favourable to the production of apples and hops, of each of which there are very considerable plantations. A fine grove of oaks is situated on the Cowarne estate, and about one hundred acres only of coppice are dispersed in different parts. It includes thirty-six houses rated to the window duties, and about fifty cottages ; is stated to have suffered by the contributions made by the Scottish army, A. D. 1645, in money, &c. £.278 10s. and paid to the Land-Tax £.66 4s. 4d. Cowarne Brook enters this parish from Stoke Lacy, and working one corn mill, runs into Stretton Gransham (Grandison). Two turnpike-roads from Hereford to Worcester, &c. also pass through Cowarne, in length about a mile each ; the one proceeds over Froome Hill, and the other through the town of Bromyard.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Cowarne magna is a vicarage discharged in the *Liber Regis* from the payment of tenths. In the ancient taxation it was charged thirty-six marks and an half, and was in 1286 paid ten pounds as the ninth: in 1292 it was valued at thirty-five marks, and charged three marks and an half as a tenth: in the *Liber Regis* it is certified to be of the clear yearly value of £.38, and is now about £.130 per ann.

The advowson and whole of the tithes belonged, after the Norman Conquest, to Bernard Newmarch, who gave them to the church of St. Peter, Gloucester.

A. D.
1066.

“ A. D. 1088, Bernardus de Novo-mercato dedit ecclesiæ Gloc: Sancti Petri, ecclesiam de Cowarne majore, cum totâ decimâ illius parochiæ, et terram ad ipsam ecclesiam pertinentem, quæ vocatur Bache; Rege Willielmo juniore concedente et confirmante secundo anno regni.”* In consideration of this grant, Bernard was liberated by Gilbert Foliot, Bishop of Hereford, from the payment of all tithes in his manor of Rodele, and also in his manor of Hide, excepting two shillings per ann. to the church of Yarcle.†

In the year 1351, the abbot and convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester, continuing in possession of the advowson and great tithes of Cowarne, neglected and refused to allow a competent maintenance to the vicar whom they appointed to perform the service of the church.‡ This, it appeared, was not an unusual accusation against them from other parishes; in this case, however, a complaint to

* Mon. Ang. p. 114.

† Foliot Register.

‡ Reg. Trilleck.

the archbishop redressed the grievance, and on that occasion it seems highly probable, that the vicarage was endowed with a portion of the great tithes, as well as small, which the vicars continue to hold, on the estates of Leighton. The other great tithes belong to the cathedral church of Gloucester, to which they were probably transferred at the dissolution of religious houses, and they are now leased out to Francis Henry Thomas, esq. The successive patrons of the vicarage are given in the following list :

PATRONS.				A. D.	INCUMBENTS.			
<i>(A blank in the register)</i>				- 1290	-	-	-	Reginald de Maunsel.
Abbot and Convent of Gloucester				1314	-	-	-	Galfrid de Ganignon.
The same	-	-	-	- 1316	-	-	-	Walter de Stormaston.
The same	-	-	-	- 1318	-	-	-	Richard de la Felde.
The same	-	-	-	- 1351	-	-	-	Richard Radbroke.
The same	-	-	-	- 1407	-	-	-	Robert Brey.
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Richard Lingen.
The same	-	-	-	- 1476	-	-	-	Thomas Clarke.
The same	-	-	-	- 1481	-	-	-	Roger Grene.
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	John Mawley.
Bishop of Gloucester				- 1541	-	-	-	Richard Humphrey.
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Richard Vaughan.
Bishop of Gloucester				- 1548	-	-	-	William Turnam.
Francis Abberley				- 1662	-	-	-	Francis Minton.
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	James Hatts.
Joseph Ward, clerk				- 1676	-	-	-	John Hathway.
Sampson Ward, Middle- Temple, London, esq. }				- 1688	-	-	-	Edward Chamberlayne.
John Jauncey, yeoman				- 1694	-	-	-	Matthew Chamberlayne.
Richard Brydges, esq.				- 1736	-	-	-	John Brydges.
Bishop of Gloucester				- 1773	-	-	-	James Webster.
					-	-	-	Chambre Brabazon.
Bishop of Gloucester				- 1809	-	-	-	Ponsonby Lowther.

The church is situated on a pleasant eminence, on the south side of the road from Hereford to Bromyard, at the distance of eight miles from the former. The inhabitants had a tradition in the 17th century, that it was intended to have been built on a hill north east from its present situation; but that the materials which were collected there for the purpose, were regularly conveyed by some invisible agent every night to the site it now occupies. This stratagem probably had its origin in Gloucester Abbey; but the particular object for which the credulity of the inhabitants was amused on this occasion, is perhaps not to be ascertained at this distance of time.

The rents of several lands and tenements here, were applied towards the service of a chauntry founded in this church in honour of the Virgin Mary. The clear amount of the whole was £.2 2s. The rent also of a field, thence called Lamp Close, and worth per ann. eleven pence, was appropriated to the purpose of keeping a lamp burning within the church, probably in memory of some obit. The church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and consists of two aisles, a chancel, and handsome tower with a spire and six good bells. In the south wall is a *Lavacrum* under a pointed arch, and a small recess projects from the north wall, with a door into the chancel, in which the lamp was probably situated, or the service of the chauntry performed.

Under the south wall of the chancel is the effigies of a woman; and on an escutcheon of stone, without colours, are these coats;—
1. a griffin rampant; 2. three cross bows; 3. a lion rampant; 4. a chevron between two fleur de lis in chief and a roundle in base;
5. a fesse between six martlets; 6. party per pale three roundles;
7. on a fesse three fleur de lis; 8. (as the first) a griffin rampant.—

All these coats are impaled with barry of six pieces wavy, in chief a saltire.

On the Wall above is this inscription:—

Sponsa Sybella fuit Reedi, prolesque prioris;
Viva, Dei proles; mortua, Sponsa Dei:
Spiritus hoc fruitur, corpusque aliquando
fruetur,

Sponsa diu Sponso, non nisi tota placet.

Obiit 17 Julii, 1624.

Uxori Sibyllæ, Gulielmus Reed, arm. mærens hoc posuit, amoris et fidei conjugalis monumentum.

On a Flat Stone within the Communion Rails.

Rev. John Brydges, A. M. thirty-six years vicar of this parish, died July 7, 1773.

William, only son of John and Elizabeth his wife, died August 29, 1771, aged 17.

Elizabeth their daughter, died in her infancy, 1751.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

Richard Brydges, esq. barrister at law, and one of the benchers of Lincoln's Inn, was eldest son and heir of Edmund Brydges, late of Lincoln's Inn aforesaid, who was youngest son of William, late of Tibberton. He married Ann, one of the daughters of Cheney, of in the county of Kent, esq. by whom he left no issue.

Richard Gardiner, late of Chames Court, in the parish of Bishop's Frome, gent. died Dec. 6, 1739, aged 71.

Hannah Gardiner, widow, late of Hopton, died July 30, 1717.

Margery wife of Richard Gardiner, of this parish, died May 11, 1746, aged 53.

Richard Derry, died April 20, 1755, aged 44.

North Wall of the Church.

(On a Tablet of White Marble).

Beneath reposeth with his ancestors, the corporeal part of Henry Berrington, esq. who, with a resignation truly christian, and

hope full of immortality, ceased to be mortal in the 51st year of his age, of redemption the 1764th.

Unwept—unworthy of to-morrow's sigh,
Consign'd to quick oblivion—they die
Whose names claim not more valuable records
Than marbled pageantry and pencill'd words.
The featured bust with likening art design'd,
Delineates not one feature of the mind,
And small's the credit—tho' immense the
praise—

Suspected eulogy!—the tomb conveys.
This Berrington foresaw; this well he knew,
And in his life, his own memorial drew;
Disdaining vulgar monumental fame,
To living guardians he bequeath'd his name,
And left to late posterity, the plan
That forms the pious, honest, virtuous man.

To the memory of the most affectionate husband, this inscription is dedicated by his disconsolate relict Ann Berrington; who also died Jan. 12, 1765.

William, son of William Sheward, by Mary his wife, died Nov. 17, 1766, aged 21.

Also John, their son, died Jan. 17, 1767, aged 23.

East Wall of South Aisle.

Propè jacent quæ mortalia fuerunt, Samueli Hathway, A. B. è Coll: Oriel: Oxon: et Penelopes dilectess: liberorum Robti: Hathway, A. M. et Penelopes uxoris suæ, hujus parochiæ: obierunt illè Aug. 18, 1761, ætat 22; illa Nov. 15, 1763, ætat suæ 30. Virtus pro pyramide.

Arms.—Barry of six *sable* and *argent*, over all a bend *or*, charged with three pheons *sable*—impaled with *sable*, three mattocks, *or*.

In the south aisle is an altar monument, supporting the effigies of a male and female. In the front are also those of three sons and seven daughters kneeling, and these arms and inscriptions:—

Argent, a chevron erased between three foxes heads, *gules* (a crescent for difference) impaled with *gules*, a lion rampant, *argent*, over all a bend compony *argent* and *azure*.

Inscription.—Here lie the bodies of Edmund Fox, gent. of Leighton's-Court, and Ann his wife; he died April 11, 1617, and she the * * * * *

* * * * *

which Edmund was second son of Charles Fox, esq. sometime secretary at the council in the marches of Wales, and which Ann erected this monument, and gave five pounds to the poor of this parish, to remain in stock for ever.

PARISH OF COWARN PARVA.

COWARN PARVA is bounded on the north by Pencomb, on the south-east by Stoke Lacy, on the south by Moreton Jefferies (in Radlow hundred), and on the west by Ullingswick.

This very small parish is unnoticed in Domesday book; but was held at an early date by a family of the name of Frayne. In the book of tenures compiled in the reign of Hen. III. it is thus mentioned as the property of the heirs of Thomas de Frayne:—
“In parva Cowarne tres hidæ, quas hæredes Thomæ de Frayne, tenent de honore de Kyngton, per servitium militare pro dimidio feod: de veteri feoffamento.”*

A. D.
1216.

It soon afterwards belonged to the Devereux family, and passed from them to the Berringtons of Cowarne magna. In the reign of Elizabeth it continued to be held by the tenure and in the

* Harl. MS. 606.

manner already mentioned;—"Manerium de Cowarne parva, tenetur de dominâ reginâ per dimidiam partem unius feodi militis de honore Kynton."*

The Berringtons disposed of their property in this vicinity about the year 1650, and since that date Cowarne Parva has had various owners, without supplying any interesting materials for history. Mr. Freeman, of Gaines, in the parish of Whitbourne, exchanged it for other lands with Mr. Gardiner, whose son bequeathed it to his nephew, Mr. Godfrey, who sold it to Mr. Pursehouse, who left it by will to his nephew, Mr. Berry, of Stanford, in Worcestershire, the present proprietor.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Cowarne parva was exempted from payment towards the ancient taxation on account of the smallness of its revenues: it contributed fifteen shillings to the ninth, granted to Edward I. A. D. 1286, when a messuage and one carucate of land constituted the principal value: it was not charged in the taxation of 1296, but was united with that of Ullingswick by Bishop Mylling, A. D. 1478, on account of the insufficiency of each of their revenues to maintain a separate priest.† The patronage will appear from the following list:—

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Abbot and Convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester	1276	John Calewall.
The same	1298	Robert Cartes.
The same	1327	Henry de Wigmore.

* Harl. MS. 762.

† Mylling's Register.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
The Crown - - - -	1352 -	John Ffoyer.
The Bishop of Hereford -	1364 -	John Haynes.
Abbot and Convent of Gloucester	1370 -	Reginald Smith.
The same - - - -	1386 -	John Sacomb.
The same - - - -	1399 -	M.... ap Howell.
The Bishop of Hereford -	1428 -	Thomas Fortnight.

COWARNE UNITED WITH ULLINGSWICK.

The Bishop - - - -	1478 -	James Drew.
_____ - - - -	_____ -	John Woderoffe.
The Bishop - - - -	_____ -	John Viall.
The same - - - -	1515 -	John Beale.
The same - - - -	1550 -	Richard Skyppe.
The same - - - -	1566 -	Richard Harford.
The same - - - -	1570 -	Charles Nicholas.
The same - - - -	1576 -	James Drew.
_____ - - - -	_____ -	_____
_____ - - - -	1650 -	Charles Nicholas.
_____ - - - -	_____ -	William Allen.
The Bishop - - - -	1675 -	Henry Allen.
The same - - - -	1688 -	Charles Mansfield.
The same - - - -	1732 -	William Lane.
The same - - - -	1759 -	Thomas Talbot.
The Crown - - - -	1789 -	George Finch.

The church is situated in a sequestered vale, is dark and of small dimensions, and has the appearance of antiquity: it consists of a chancel and nave separated by a stone wall, has no tower nor spire, but two small bells are suspended under the west end of the roof. On the south side of the altar the *lavacrum* remains, and on flat stones near it are these inscriptions:—

Henry Hill, of Meadow-Court, died April
25, 1706, aged 25.

Elizabeth, his wife, died January 27, 1715,
aged 41.

Susannah, daughter of Henry Hill, jun. and
Martha, his wife, died August 22, 1738,
aged 14.

North Wall of the Church,

(On a small Marble Tablet).

Ann, wife of William Nisbett, died March
21, 1790, aged 35 years.

PARISH OF FELTON.

FELTON is bounded on the north by Ullingswick, on the west by Bodenham, on the south by Lyre-Ocle, and on the east by Moreton Jeffries, in the Hundred of Radlow.

A. D.
1066.

Felton belonged before the Norman Conquest, to the Priory of St. Guthlake, or Guthlac, Hereford, amongst the possessions of which house, it is thus mentioned in Domesday:—

1086.

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terra sancti Guthlaci:—Ipsa ecclesia tenet Feltone: ibi 3 hidæ geld: prati dimid: hidæ.—In dominio sunt 3 carucata et 5 servi et 1 bordarius.—Ibi francigena cum 1 carucata, redd: 6 solid. Valuit 60 solid: modo 40.”

Remaining annexed to this Priory until the general dissolution of religious houses, Felton affords few materials worthy of communication. In the reign of Henry III. it was held, with Thinghill, an estate in the adjacent parish of Withington; the two contained six hides, and were of the honour of Kington.

1216.

“ In Felton and Thyngghull continentur sex hidæ, quas Prior de Hereford, tenet in puram et perpetuam elemosinam et erant de honore de Kyngton.”*

* Lib. Feod. Hen. III. Harl. MS. 5223.

The Priory of St. Guthlake was dissolved by Hen. VIII. A. D. 1539, and in the 36th year of his reign, he granted by letters patent to Sir John Pryce and his heirs, "all those manors of Thinghull, Felton, Hinton, Prior's-Hope, Monkton, Lyde, Prior's-Frome, Leadon, Rushock, Ballingham, &c. then worth £.40 14s. 9d. per annum, and formerly belonging to the dissolved Priory of St. Guthlac juxta Hereford; the king reserving to himself, his heirs, &c. according to an act of parliament then made, the tenth of the rent, payable at Michaelmas."*

A. D.
1539.

Sir John Pryce (or Ap-Rice), knt. was originally of London, but afterwards of Portham, in this county. He was preceded by three of the same name, of whom John, the first recorded in the Heraldic Visitations, married Eleanor, daughter of William Mainwaring of Egglefield, and widow of Philip Egerton. Sir John Pryce, to whom Felton &c. were granted, married Joan, daughter of John Williams of London, and had issue, 1 George, his heir, who married Mary, daughter of Humphrey Coningsby, of Hampton-Court, in this county; 2 Richard; 3 John; 4 William; 5 Bartholomew; and four daughters. George had issue John, who marrying Ann, daughter and sole heiress of Sir George Chute, knt. by Mary his wife, daughter and sole heiress of the Welfords of Wistaston, had issue Thomas, who had issue John, who died without surviving male issue, but left one daughter, Mary, who married Thomas Hayton, esq. whose son Thomas Chute Hayton, esq. (father of the present William Chute Hayton, of Wistaston, esq.) sold Felton to Thomas Griffiths, Clerk, who dying

A. D. 1800, left them to John Lilly, of New Court, in the Parish of Lugwardine, Clerk, who now enjoys them.

The arms of Pryce, being a patent granted by Christopher Barker, Garter King at Arms, are as follows:—*Sable*, a chevron, *argent*, charged with three javelin points, *sable*, between three leopard's faces, *argent*; in chief *argent*, 3 game cocks, *gules*, combed, *or*.

ROSEMAUND,

Is supposed to have acquired the additional appellation of Rose (for there are two other Maunds, formerly Magenes, in the adjoining parish of Bodenham), from an ancient family of the name of Rous, who once held it.*

The family of Trevilles, who will be further noticed in the collections for Tarrington, appear to have possessed this property afterwards. Of these, Alexander Treville (younger brother and heir of Baldwin, heir of Richard, heir of Baldwin), is stated to have "had fayre lands in the counties of Hereford and Norfolk," in the reign of Edward I.† This Alexander was summoned to Parliament in the first year of Edward III. and died soon after. Baldwin his son and heir, also died 17 Edward III. and his son Baldwin, then twenty-six years of age, doing his homage, had livery of his lands in this and seven other counties.‡ He died 11 Richard II. leaving issue, Baldwin, who dying 2 Henry IV. also left issue, Baldwin, who died in his minority, 6 Henry V. leaving three sisters his co-heiresses, of whom Margaret married Sir Hugh Willoughby, knt.

* Blount's MS.

† Dugd. Baron.

‡ *ibid.*

and had *inter alia*, the manors of Bradford (or Bradfield), Ferne and Mawne, in this county.* The Willoughbys were an ancient and respectable family in Nottingham and Warwickshires; and in a branch of them Rosemaund appears to have remained from the period abovementioned until about A. D. 1774, when it was sold by Robert Willoughby, of Nottingham, esq. to Mr. Pitt, the present proprietor.

A portion of the tithes of Rosemaund anciently belonged to the Preceptory of Dinmore, and were granted by Queen Elizabeth to Cecil Pickarel and her heirs;† they afterwards belonged to the Price's family, passed from them to the Haytons, and were sold to the late Thomas Griffiths, clerk, who bequeathed them to the present possessor, Mr. Lilly: the other portion of the tithes are in litigation between Mr. Lilly and Mr. Pitt.

The soil of Felton is a red clay, producing good wheat and hops. The whole parish includes but nine houses rated to the window duties, and six cottages. Within the last one hundred and sixty years the population has decreased in the proportion of one third.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Felton was charged four marks in the ancient taxation; contributed 19s. 8d. to the ninth granted to Edward I. and only 5s. 4d. to the tenth, A. D. 1296. It is stated to be of the clear value of £.18 6s. 8d. in the *Liber Regis*, and is now worth about £.80 per ann. Felton is a vicarage, formerly in the patronage of the Abbey of Gloucester, and after in that of the

Priory of St. Guthlac, Hereford. At the dissolution of abbies by Henry VIII. it was granted to Sir John Pryce, with the manor, great tithes, &c. and has since been presented to by the successive lords.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Abbot and Convent of Gloucester	1304 -	Thomas de _____
The same - - -	1348 -	Henry de Morton.
The Bishop of Hereford -	1350 -	William Willys.
Prior, &c. of St. Guthlake, } Hereford - - - }	1373 -	John de Morton.
The same - - -	1378 -	Galfrid de Lysson.
The same - - -	1387 -	Thomas Capel.
The same - - -	1393 -	John Collins.
The same - - -	1397 -	Thomas Cole.
The same - - -	1410 -	William Stoke.
The same - - -	1411 -	Thomas King.
The same - - -	1411 -	Hugo Lucas.
_____ - - -	_____ -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ -	William Walton.
Prior of St. Guthlake - -	1530 -	James Willym.
The same - - -	- -	Thomas Long.
Sir John Price, knt. - -	1554 -	John Hillwell.
Gregory Price, esq. - -	_____ -	William Madox.
_____ - - -	_____ -	_____
_____ - - -	1637 -	William Adams.
Thos. Price, esq. of Wistaston	1670 -	James Hathway.
Paul Foley, esq. - - -	1689 -	Charles Felton.
John Price, esq. - - -	1702 -	John Wythers.
The same - - -	1708 -	Henry Price.
The same - - -	1734 -	Joseph Powell.
The Crown - - -	1767 -	John Parry.
Thomas Griffiths, clerk -	1778 -	Thomas Griffiths.
The same - - -	1796 -	John Lilly.

The church is a small building, situated on the north side of the road from Hereford to Bromyard, about seven miles distant from the former. It is dedicated to St. Michael, and consists of an aisle, a chancel, and wooden tower, with three bells. Between the church and chancel are some remains of the rood loft; and in the south wall of the chancel is the *Lavacrum*, under a plain arch, in the Saxon style; near the communion rails is the following inscription:

On a flat Stone.

Here lieth the body of Capt. Thomas Coningsby, of Morton Bagot, in the county of Warwick, esq. being the eldest family of that name. He died June 18, 1690.

On flat Stones in the Nave.

James, son of James Pitts, of Rosemaund, died May 18, 1726, aged 20.

James Pitts, sen. died March 22, 1741, aged 75.

Mary, his relict, died October 24, 1761, aged 86.

On an altar tomb in the church-yard, adjoining the chancel, are the arms of Coningsby, viz. *gules*, three conies or rabbits, *argent*, and this inscription:

Elizabeth Barns, daughter of Thomas Coningsby, esq. of Grendon Warren, and relict of Francis Barns, Rector of Stoke Lacy, died Jan. 19, 1784, aged 99 years.

The old vicarial house was taken down, and a new one erected by Mr. Henry Price, who was incumbent from 1708 to 1734. He also paved the chancel, which at that time contained no sepulchral inscription, except that over Capt. Connigsby, as given above.

PARISHES OF
GRENDON BISHOP & GRENDON WARYN.

GRENDON BISHOP and GRENDON-WARYN are bounded on the east by Bridenbury, on the south by Pencomb, on the west by Marston, and on the north-west by Docklow, in the hundred of Wolphey.

Grendon was granted at the Norman Conquest to Roger de Laci: it consisted of four hides, and had been held by Eduui and Ordric, as two manors:

“ In Plegeliet Hund: Terra Rogeri de Laci.—Idem Rogerus tenet Gredene et Willielmus de eo. Eduui tenuit et Ordric pro duobus maneriis. Nichil ibi habetur.*

One of these manors was probably given by him or his heirs to the see of Hereford; from this circumstance it acquired the appellation of Grendon Bishop, and free warren was granted here 14 Richard II. to John Trevenant, Bishop of Hereford. It is now considered as a member of the manor of Bromyard, and continues annexed to the revenues of the see. An eminence situated on an estate called Westingdon, in this parish, is named *The Camps*, and another hill, about one mile distant, retains the same appellation; some marks of entrenchments are still found on the site of each, but they are now nearly obliterated by the more useful labours of the plough. They were probably appendages of the strong camp of Thornbury, and designed rather for places of observation than defence. A small chapel here was also under the

* Domesday Book.

church of Bromyard, but it has lately received the augmentation of Queen Anne's Bounty, by which an estate, called the Drevor, in the parish of Colvall, and county of Radnor, has been purchased, and also the sum of £600 advanced towards the further support of the chaplain, who is nominated by the vicars of Bromyard, and being licensed by the bishop, receives a bushel of Monkcorn (wheat and rye) and one shilling, from what is termed every *yard* land in Grendon, the yard being now considered to include lands of the rent of £.20 per annum. The deacon of Bromyard is also entitled to the sum of £.11 as a tithe; and the first portionist of that church to £.5 10s. The chapel, consisting of a nave and tower, with a spire and two bells, is situated on the west side of the turnpike-road from Bromyard to Leominster, at the distance of five miles from the former. It has lately been rebuilt with stone in a neat and modern style, and contains the following inscriptions:

East Wall.

John Jenks, late of Horsnett, died May 26, 1777, aged 75.

Mary, his wife, February 17, 1765, aged 66.

Sarah, wife of William Jenks, died Sept. 4, 1777, aged 34 years.

North Wall.

James Parlour, gent. late of Westington, in this Parish, died Nov. 13, 1757, aged 56.

South Wall (on Marble).

Philip South, of Newbury, gent. died December 1, 1756, aged 75.

Sarah, relict of Edward Pearce, of Leominster, died Feb. 26, 1777, aged 87.

Philip Morris, of Newbury, gent. died April 14, 1784, aged 71.

Charlotte, daughter of the said Philip and Cimbriana, his wife, died Dec. 2, 1784, aged 22.

The widow of the said Philip Morris, as an affectionate tribute to the deceased, caused this monument to be erected.

Matthew Clark, died November 13, 1722, aged 73.

Mary, his wife, died November 20, 1733, aged 78.

Hannah Smith, widow, February 13, 1722, aged 94.

The second manor mentioned in Domesday to be situated in Grendon, was held after the Laci's by a family to whom it gave name. Of these John de Grendon lived early in the thirteenth

A. D.
1216

century, and was probably the first who assumed the name of Grendon from his property. It is thus mentioned in the Book of Fees made in the time of Henry III.*

“ In Grendon continetur 1 hida quam Johannes de Grendon tenet de heredibus Walteri de Laci pro quartâ parte feodi, de honore de Webbeleye de veteri feoffamento.”

In the same reign lived Warinus de G. from whom this part of Grendon acquired the additional appellation of Waryn, which it still retains. He was sheriff of Herefordshire with Walter de Lasey (Lacy) in the third, fourth, and fifth years of Henry III.

Waryn was succeeded by Waryn, who presented his son William to the chapel of Grendon, A. D. 1277.† On a vacancy afterwards (A. D. 1285), Bishop Swinfield appointed a chaplain for the term of six months. The appointment was dated Sugwas (one of the former seats of the Bishops of Hereford), June 6, 1285. Another Waryn de Grendon presented to the chapel, August 7, 1357,‡ and again 1361. Before the reign of Edward I. there were several knights of this name, who succeeded each other in the lordship of Grendon, in the county of Warwick. Sir Ralph Grendon had summons to Parliament 28 Edward I. and afterwards. He died 5 Edward III. (1332), leaving a son Robert, who dying without issue A. D. 1349, his inheritance descended to Sir Ralph Rochford, knt. his nephew.§

The name does not again occur in the list of sheriffs of Herefordshire, nor was it returned amongst the gentry of this county A. D. 1433. It is therefore probable the family became extinct, or at

* Harl. MS. 5223.

† Trilleck Reg.

‡ Cantilupe Reg.

§ Dugd. Baron. v. 2. f. 23.

least changed their residence about this period. A branch of the ancient family of Blount next held Grendon during three generations, after which it was sold to the Coningsbys, of Hampton Court, who retained it as a provision for a younger branch, until the death of Dr. George Coningsby, A. D. 1766, when it was sold to Henry Duke of Chandos, whose son James, the last Duke, resold it, A. D. 1778, to J. L. Barneby, of Brockhampton, esq. the present proprietor.

The soil of Grendon is in some parts a red clay and favourable to the cultivation of hops and wheat: in other parts it is more light and thin; and better calculated for oats, &c.

An old chapel, which was anciently presented to by the lords of the manor, and which contained several monuments over the Coningsby family, was taken down and a new one erected by Dr. Coningsby, but neither the inscriptions were preserved, nor the service continued in the present building. The tithes belong to the proprietor of the estate.

PARISH OF MARDEN.

MARDEN is bounded on the north by Bodenham; on the south by Sutton St. Michael; on the east by Amberley, and by Preston in the parish of Withington; and on the west by Wellington and Moreton, in the hundred of Grimsworth.

Marden is distinguished by several vestiges of great antiquity, and at different periods has been styled Maudine, Maudyn, Mawerthin, Mawerdin, and Marwardyn. In its etymology it seems to have reference to its vicinity to the hill of Dinmore, the name

of which is formed from the British *mawr*, great, and *din*, a fortified hill or mount.

At a very early period the manor belonged to the kings of Mercia, who had a palace here, part of which was situated in the parish of Marden, and part in that of Sutton; as the site still retains the name of the latter, Sutton-Walls (*vallum*), a particular description and account of it are given in the Collections for that parish.

A. D.
765.

827,
or
874.

Of the Mercian kings who reigned here, Offa, who succeeded Ethelbald, has left the strongest memorials; several places in Marden, such as Awfield (Campus Offæ) Offbury (Burgus Offæ), retaining his name in their present appellations. Marden continued in the crown of Mercia, until Egbert, king of Wessex, effected a revolution in the government of the whole kingdom, by uniting all the Saxon principalities into one monarchy. Thus annexed to the English crown, Marden came into possession of William Duke of Normandy, the conqueror of Harold, who granted this, with various other manors and lands in Herefordshire, to his kinsman William Fitz-Osborn,* of Crepon, who was also created Earl of Hereford, being the third who had enjoyed that honour. In the time of Edward the Confessor, the inhabitants of the city of Hereford, held their *masures* or houses in this vill, by the service of reaping the king's corn and making his hay in Marden.†

William Fitz-Osborn gave one rood of land in this manor to a burgess of Hereford, and the churches of Marden and Lene, to the

* He was one of the council of King William, governor of the Isle of Wight and Winchester Castle, and a justice itinerant for the whole nation.

† Lord Coningsby's Marden.

Benedictine monks of Cormeiles in Normandy, the place of his birth and interment. He was succeeded in his English honours and estates by Roger de Britolio or Bretevil, his third son, who being detected in a conspiracy with the Earl of Norfolk to divest King William (Rufus) of his Government, was adjudged, after the Norman manner, to suffer perpetual imprisonment and a confiscation of his property. Marden thus returned to the crown with the manor of Lene also, which from this circumstance acquired the name of King's Lene, and is now called Kingsland; and both being in the hands of the king when the survey of Domesday Book was compiled, became what has been since styled Ancient Demesne, and as such, entitled to various franchises and immunities. It is thus noticed in the survey alluded to:—

A. D.
1086.

“ In Greitrewes Hund: Terra Regis: Rex tenet Maurdine: Rex Edwardus tenuit. Ibi plures hidæ sed ex his 2 tantum geldant. Hæc terra per plures est divisa. In dominio habet Rex 3 carucatae, et 25 villarii, et 5 bordarii et 2 bovarii, et 4 servi, et 4 coliberti.* Inter omnes habent 21 carucatas. Ibi molindinum de 20 solid: et 25 stiches anguillarum. Silva redd: 20 solid: Ibi est piscaria sine censu. De salinis in wich 9 summæ salis, aut 9 denarii et adhuc 8 serv. Regis habent 7 carucatas.

“ De hoc manerio tenet Willielmus filius Normanni 3 hidæ, una quinta minus, et Norman (Porcarius) tenet dimid: hidæ de hoc manerio; et comes Will: posuit foris de hoc manerio unam quintam et dedit cuidam burgensi de Hereford: et Anschitel tenet 40 acras intra planum et pratum, quas prepositus Regis Edwardus prestavit suo parenti: Terras Willielmi filii Normanni, tenuerunt

* Refined Silver.

3 radchenistres, nec poterant de hoc manerio seperari. De mercede terræ manerii hujus exeunt 9 solidi.* T. R. E. reddebat 9 libras de candidis denariis, modo appreciat: 16 libr.”

One hide of Marden was held by Roger de Laci, and is thus mentioned in Domesday :—

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Rogerus de Laci tenet 1 hidam de Maurdine, firmâ Regis: Ingelgrannus de eo. In dominio sunt 2 carucatæ, et 4 villarii et 1 bordarius cum 2 carucatis. Ibi 3 servi. T. R. E. et post valebat 40 solid: modo 60 solid: Eddui Celt tenuit.”

Stephanus also held a virgate of land in Marden, as appears from the same authority :—“ In Tornelaus Hund: Stephanus tenet de Rege in Maurdine 1 virgata terræ: Aluuard: tenuit pro manerio, de Rege Edwardo. In dominio habet 1 carucatam, et 3 bordarii et 4 servi. Valuit et valet 10 solid.” This property is now called *Wistaston*.

Besides these lands, which are situated in the Parish of Marden, Amberley and other places were long considered as members of this manor, and will therefore be occasionally alluded to for the sake of perspicuity.

It has already been noticed that the lordship of Marden reverted to the crown on the confiscation of the property of Roger de Britolio or Bretevil. It was next granted by the Empress Maud, together with the castle of Hereford, to Milo Fitzwalter, when she created him Earl of Hereford.† She also gave him the services of Robert de Chaundos, Richard de Cormeiles, and Hugh Fitzwilliam, with their respective fees; the first of whom held lands

* As High Rent.

† Dugd. Baron. Vol. II. f. 537.

in Sutton,* the second Amberley, from his predecessor and kinsman, Ansfrid de Cormeiles, and the third Fenne and Ferne, in the parish of Bodenham.

The arms of King Stephen prevailing against the Empress, Marden again reverted to the crown, and continued there until the reign of Henry III. That king granted to Alexander le Seculer,† and his wife, one virgate of land in Mawarthin and Wisterneston (Stephen's Town), which was held by Walter le Prevost, and had escheated to the king; also the mill of Mawarthin, to hold by the yearly payment of five marks for the mill, and twelve pence for the virgate, at the king's exchequer at Easter and Michaelmas. Alexander died seized of these and other lands 31 Henry III. as appears by an inquisition made at Hereford after his death; his brother Nicholas, then thirty years of age, succeeding as heir. Nicholas dying, left five sisters unmarried, who, out of his property had each one hundred and thirty-six acres of land, the rents of which were worth £.3 3s. 10d. and one fifth part of a pound of pepper; Nicholas also left two daughters, Alice, married to Walter de Freene, Lord of Moccas; and Cecilia, married to Richard de la Barre, of Barre's-Court, in the parish of Holmer, and hundred of Grimsworth.

The manor of Marden was afterwards held by Roger Mortimer (to whom it was granted by Henry III. or Edward I.) to the time of his death, and nineteen years after by Maud, his widow, who left a son, Edmond, then forty years of age. In the following year died Walter de Marwardyn, who held six acres of land in Marden of the king, *in capite*, by rent service of sixpence, and of

A. D.
1216.

1247.

1272.

1291.

* Mon. Ang. Vol. II. f. 986.

† Rot. Cart. in Turr. Lond. 25 Henry III.
R 2

A. D.
1331.

Roger Mortimer twenty acres, by the rent of two shillings, &c.* Edmond Mortimer was wounded in the battle of Builth, against the Welsh, and died in his castle of Wigmore, in this county, 32 Edward I. leaving, by Margery his wife, Roger Mortimer, afterwards Earl of March. Roger had Marden before the death of his father, and held it until 4 Edward III. when being convicted of high treason, he was executed† in Smithfield, London, and his property confiscated to the crown. Marden was then granted by Edward III. to Maurice de Berkeley and his heirs, to be held by knights' service: forty librates of land in Marden were also granted to Richard, a descendant of the above-mentioned Richard de la Barre, who married the daughter of Nicholas le Seculer.

1348.

Maurice de Berkeley died 21 Edward III. leaving, by Margery his wife, a son, Maurice, aged fourteen years at the death of his father. This Maurice held Marden seven years, when Roger,‡ son of Edmond, and grandson of Roger, Earl of March, obtained a reversal of the judgment against his father, and had restitution of his lands. On this occasion De la Barre, who had part of Mortimer's lands after his attainder, had the rent of Marden mill § (five marks) remitted him, as a compensation for the lands thus restored. Maurice de Berkeley had probably a similar recompense elsewhere. Roger Mortimer died 26 Feb. 34 Edward III. leaving one son, Edmond; but this manor was held by Philippa his widow, daughter of the Earl of Salisbury, it being assigned her in dower. Philippa held it *in capite*, by the yearly payment

1361.

* Bund. Eschæet. Edw. I.

‡ Bund Eschæet. 28 Edw. III. in Turr. Lond.

† Dugd. Baron. f. 146.

§ Rot. Pat. 31 Edw. III.

of ten shillings at the castle of Hereford. The rents of assize were then worth £.30, and the perquisites of the court, beyond reprises £.2 per ann. This lady died 6 Jan. 5 Richard II. having survived her son Edmond a few days: Edmond had, however, married Philippa, daughter of Lionel Duke of Clarence, and left Roger, his son and heir, then nine years of age.* Roger was afterwards made Lieutenant of Ireland, and being descended, as above, from the Duke of Clarence, was declared presumptive heir to the Crown of England, by Parliament; but, to the great regret of the king, was killed in a skirmish with the native Irish, 22 Rich. II. and interred in his abbey of Wigmore. He had married Eleanor, daughter of the Earl of Kent, by whom he had—1 Edmund, last Earl of March, of the house of Mortimer, 2 Roger, who died without issue; Ann, married to Richard Earl of Cambridge, brother of the Duke of York, and another daughter, married to Edward, son of Edward Earl of Devonshire. Edmund succeeded his father, and was appointed by Henry V. his lieutenant in Normandy, and by Henry VI. lieutenant in Ireland. He married Ann, daughter of Edmund Earl of Stafford, but died without issue 3 Henry VI. His countess held this manor in dower until her death, which happened eight years after, when Richard, Duke of York, cousin and heir to Edmund, had livery† of all her lands. Thus possessed of the wealth of the house of Mortimer, the Duke of York published his claim to the English crown, but was defeated and slain by the king's forces, at Wakefield, in Yorkshire, A. D. 1460. In the following year his death was amply revenged by his son, the Earl of March, by a complete

A. D.
1382.

1399.

1432.

1460.

* Bund, Eschæt. 5 Rich. II.

† Rot. Claus. 11 Henry VI.

victory at Mortimer's Cross, in this county, which he gained Feb. 24, 1461; King Henry was, in consequence, deposed, and the Earl of March succeeded to the crown, with the title of Edward IV. Thus the manor of Marden again reverted into royal hands, and was soon after granted by the king to his mother,* the Duchess Dowager of York, to hold for the term of her life, without account. After her death it continued in the crown until the reign of Henry VIII. who granted it, with all its privileges, &c. to his brother's widow, under the title of Queen,† for the term of her life, and the grants were confirmed by Parliament. Whilst the Queen held this lordship, Sir John Lingen died seized of twenty messuages, eighty acres of arable land, and one hundred of pasture, in Wisteston and Fenne; also three messuages, one hundred acres of arable land, thirteen acres of meadow, and twenty acres of pasture, besides Sutton Garnons and Sutton Overcourt, all of which were stated to be in the lordship of Marden.‡ These lands, &c. had been conveyed to Feoffees, in trust for himself during his own life, after him to his son John, and after him to his grandson John, and his heirs for ever. John died 22 Henry VIII. and was succeeded by John his son, by Eleanor, daughter and heiress of Thomas Mylwater, which John was forty years of age at the death of his father.

A. D.
1531.

Queen Catherine died A. D. 1546, and the manor of Marden returned into the king's hands. John Lingen died seized of the lands, &c. late his father's, leaving John his son, by Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Englefield. Prince Edward,§ in the seventh year of his reign, granted Marden to the Duke of Nor-

* Rot. Pat. 1 Edw. IV.

‡ Bund. Eschæt. 22 Henry VIII.

† Rot. Pat. 1 Henry VIII.

§ During his minority.

thumberland,* with all its rights, members, and appertenances, to be held by the duke, his heirs and assigns, of the king, in free and common socage, as of his manor of East Greenwich, by the yearly payment of £.20 to the king and his successors, in the court of augmentation. In the same month in which it was granted him by the Prince, he assigned it over, with all its franchises, to John Throckmorton, of the Middle Temple, London, esq. who paid the reserved rent to the crown, and accounted for it in the exchequer. In his time died John Lingen, son of John, seized of the lands, &c. of his father. John Throckmorton, esq. afterwards Sir John, left by Margery his wife, a son Francis, who on his father's death entered on two parts of Marden, and his mother on the third. Francis was executed A. D. 1583, being concerned in favour of the unfortunate Mary, Queen of Scots, and his estates confiscated. John Lingen left Jane, his daughter and heiress, by Isabella, his wife, married to William Shelly, who was also executed with Francis Throckmorton. By the death of the latter, the manor of Marden, then supposed to consist of the six members of Marden, Wistaston, Fromanton, alias Amberley, Sutton Freene, Valde, alias Fenne, and Verne, alias Ferne, became vested in the crown; and by the death of the former the Lingen possessions, viz. two hundred acres of arable land, thirty of meadow, one hundred of pasture, and twelve of wood, in Haymond's Frome and Sutton, one meadow in Sutton, called Shear Meadow, a parcel of the same called the *Var*, (the lands in Haymond's Frome being held of the queen, as of the honour of Weobley, and the lands in Sutton by fealty, as of the manor

* Rot. Pat. 7 Edward VI.

A. D.
1586.

of Marden), together with Sutton Overcourt, Sutton Freene, Sutton Garnons, and Overfenn, twenty messuages, two water mills, five hundred acres of arable land, two hundred of meadow, three hundred of pasture, twenty of wood, and £.4 rent in Sutton, Marden, Bodenham, Amberley, Withington, Overfenn, and Netherfenn (all holden of the manor of Marden by fealty, and £.5 rent) became also the property of the crown. The manor being thus forfeited, Thomas Coningsby, of Hampton Court, in this county, esq. afterwards Sir Thomas, and great grandfather of Thomas Earl Coningsby, was appointed by Queen Elizabeth guardian or bailiff of the manor, and as such, in the twenty-seventh year of her reign, accounted for the rents of assize, also of demesne and escheat lands, and perquisites of court, in the whole amounting to £.83 1s. 11d. as appears by the account returned by him into the exchequer the same year.

1602.

James I. settled Marden on Queen Anne, the 19th of September, in the first year of his reign, on which occasion Sir Thomas Coningsby was discharged as bailiff of the manor, and Thomas Wooton appointed in his stead.*

The *Down Survey*, made A. D. 1649, thus particularizes Marden :

“ The quit rents due to the lady of the aforesaid manor, by them that hold of the said manor, in free and common socage tenure, according to the custom thereof, and payable at the Annunciation and Michaelmas, by even and equal portions; and the rents of assize due from the copyholders within the township or manor of Marden, holding by fines certain, according to the custom of the said manor, and payable as above, are per ann				4	3	1½
The like Rents due from Wisteston				3	8	9
Ditto from Verne				1	17	8
Ditto from Vulde				2	5	4
Carried forward				£	11	14 10½

* Lord Coningsby's Marden, 165.

Brought forward.....	£11	14	10½
The like Rents due from Amberley <i>alias</i> Fromanton	8	7	6
Ditto from Sutton Freen	8	10	11
The court barons and court leets, fines, reliefs, &c. <i>communibus annis</i>	15	0	0
	£43	13	3½

(Signed)

WOOTON COOKE.

THOMAS COCKAYNE.

WILLIAM CARELESS.

JAMES HART."

Examined, per W. Webb, Supervisor General, 1649."

Then follows a list of the demesne lands stated to belong to the said manor, consisting of twenty pieces of pasture and meadow, twelve of arable, and fifty-three acres of coppice, with five hundred and twenty-one trees growing thereon, and valued (at 1s. 4d. each) at £.34 14s. 8d. the whole of which were by Queen Elizabeth demised by letters patent, dated February 25, in the 38th year of her reign, unto Sir Thomas Coningsby, knt. Thomas Coningsby, and Fitz-William, his sons, for the term of their lives or the longest of them, with twenty-one years in reversion, after the expiration of the said three lives, yielding and paying yearly, £.49 5s. 10d. but worth upon improvement, £.241 8s. 4d. The survey further states as a memorandum, "that Sir Thomas Coningsby and Thomas his son were then deceased, and that Fitz-William Coningsby was living and aged about sixty years:—that the aforementioned premises were all in possession of Joyce Jeffries, and Thomas Eaton, who held the same with the twenty-one years, from the above survivor, by assignment of lease."

A. D.
1596.

Besides these demesne lands, there were also the following escheat lands; "four pieces of meadow and pasture, and seventeen pieces of arable with two hundred and thirty-seven trees growing thereon, valued (at 1s. 6d. each) at £.17 15s. 6d. the whole of which were

demised, May 18, 32 Eliz. by letters patent (as before) to Henry Powell, and Walter and Thomas his sons, for their lives, or the longest of them, with the reversion of twenty-one years after, at the rent of £.2 13s. 4d. per ann. but worth by improvement, £.16 5s. 0d. Memorandum, Walter Powell only is living and aged above sixty years: and the premises are in possession of Richard Wooton, by assignment of lease, &c.”

A. D.
1702.

A. D. 1702, Catherine, Queen Dowager, granted this manor with all its rights, members, &c. to David Rowlands, of Haddenham, in the Isle of Ely, esq. for a term of years, the remainder of which was purchased by Thomas Earl Coningsby, of Hampton-Court, A. D. 1717, for the consideration of £.2000: and the whole was afterwards made over in fee simple to the said earl and his heirs for ever. His lordship, being thus in possession of the manor with all its rights and appertenances, and suspecting that after the death of Charles I. various tenures had been altered to the prejudice of the lord, and that demesne and other lands of great value, had been artfully withheld from the crown, determined to investigate the nature of the one, and the extent of the other. With these views, his lordship made a laborious collection from original papers and records of authority relative to the manor, and from them deduced conclusions highly favourable to his purpose. This collection, his zeal and industry extended to a folio volume of upwards of seven hundred pages, which was printed at his expense. In the issue, he caused ejectments to be prepared against a very considerable number of respectable families, then in possession of various estates in Marden, &c. as freehold, but which his lordship conceived to be copyhold or demesne lands. One of these ejectments was served on Mr. Rodd, an attorney (who had been

steward of the manor under the Queen dowager), and possession taken of his house and premises, on his refusal to do service to the court, &c. Mr. Rodd opposed this measure by force, and regained possession, sending the earl's three attornies and three servants to the jail of Hereford, where they were detained some hours, until released by bail. His lordship, in return, petitioned the House of Peers against this proceeding, as a breach of privilege, but not meeting with immediate redress, and labouring under a severe indisposition, his claims were never afterwards renewed, and the parties remained in quiet possession of their lands, &c. The collections made by the earl were not published, his want of success probably determined him to destroy them: but a few copies escaped, of which one is in the library at Hom Lacy, and another in that of Hampton Court. They contain much valuable information relative to various manors and lands in this county. Earl Coningsby died A. D. 1729; an account of his family is reserved for the Collections relative to Hampton Court, in the Hundred of Grimsworth. He left two daughters, ——— and Frances. Frances married Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, knight of the Bath, &c. and had issue, Charlotte, who married William-Anne, fourth Earl of Essex, of the name of Capel, born at Turin, A. D. 1732. He died A. D. 1799, and left issue George, born Nov. 13, 1757; who on his father's death succeeded to his honours and estates, and held the manor of Marden until A. D. 1809, when it was purchased, together with the mansion-house and park of Hampton Court, by Richard Arkwright, esq. son of Sir Richard Arkwright, knt. before-mentioned.

In the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. seventeen acres of land in Marden were held by the service of carrying a cord to

measure the site for any castle which the crown might think proper to re-build on the Marches of Wales:—"Roger le Forester, filius et heres Rogeri le Forester, tenet 17 acras terre in Maurdyn, com: Heref: per servitium tenendi cordam ad mensurandum castrum ubi Rex voluerit aliquod castrum construere in Marchiis Wallie de novo."*

WISTASTON

In this parish, is situated about one mile north from the church of Marden: the name was supposed by Earl Coningsby to be a corruption of *Stephen's Town*, being held by Stephen after the Norman Conquest, as already quoted from Domesday,† but the alteration or corruption appears so unusually great, that it is suggested whether it might not rather be derived from its western direction from the great camp of Offa, which is only one mile distant, and in a similar manner gives name to Sutton on the south.‡ Having been considered as a member of the manor of Marden, it went through the various changes of that lordship. The lands, however belonged during a considerable period to a family of the name of Edwin, of whom John Edwin lived at Wistaston 17 Edward III.§ He married Isabella, daughter of — Freeman, and had issue Thomas, who marrying Margaret, daughter of — Preston, had issue John; John married Margaret, daughter of John Pauers, and had issue four sons, 1 Richard, 2 Ralph, 3 Walter (Clericus), 4 Henry. Richard married Joan, daughter of

A. D.
1086.

1342.

* Fines in Scacc:—Coningsby's MS.

† Page 122

‡ Thus the great Roman town of *Ariconium* near Ross, named Aston on its east, and Weston on its west.

§ Herald. Vis.

Walter Harman, and had issue 1 Walter, 2 Ralph, and 3 John, who was living 6 Edward IV. Walter married Margaret, daughter of William Spencer, of the county of Salop, and had issue 1 John, and 2 William, of the parish of Holmer, in the hundred of Grims-worth. John married Joan, daughter and co-heiress of John Rodd, of Pembridge, and had issue 1 Walter, 2 John. Walter was bailiff of the manor of Marden about 1560, and marrying Joan, daughter of Thomas Carworthy, of Thinghill, in the parish of Wittington, had issue 1 Walter, 2 John. In the time of Walter Edwin, the bailiff, Wistaston was sold to Henry Harper, whose daughter and heiress Matilda, marrying Richard, son of John Welford, of Welford Castle, in the county of Salop, brought Wistaston into that family, of whom John Welford, esq. was sheriff of this county 1 Edward IV. A. D. 1464. Richard had issue, by Matilda his wife, 1 Giles, 2 James, and 3 William, who married Alice, daughter of James Baskerville. Giles, the eldest, married Blanch, daughter of John Dansey, of Brinsop, in this county, esq. by whom he had issue 1 Thomas, 2 William, 3 John, 4 Walter, 5 Richard, and two daughters, Agnes and Jane. Thomas married Joyce, daughter of — Welsh, of Sholderley, in the county of Worcester, by whom he left issue Margaret, or Mary, daughter and sole heiress: she married Sir George Chute, knt. of the county of Kent, and dying 1614, was buried in Marden church. Sir George Chute had issue two daughters, Frances, who died in her infancy, and Ann, sole heiress, born A. D. 1613. Ann married John Price, esq. and had issue Thomas, who dying A. D. 1738, left issue John, twice member of parliament for this county in the reign of Queen Anne; he married a Shropshire lady of large fortune, and had issue three sons (all of whom died in their in-

A. D.
1475.

fancy) and two daughters, of whom Mary, the only survivor, married Thomas Hayton, esq. and brought Wistaston into that family. They had issue Thomas Chute Hayton, esq. who succeeded his father, and marrying Lucinda, daughter of Thomas Bayley, of Hereford, esq. left issue one daughter, who married Mr. Joseph Smith, of Worcester, and one son, William Chute Hayton, esq. the present proprietor of Wistaston, who married Charlotte, eldest daughter of the late Henry Unett, of Marden, esq. Many of the lands in Wistaston were claimed by Earl Coningsby, who accused Thomas Welford, esq. of improperly holding or detaining them, but, as already stated, without success.

WISTASTON HOUSE is a brick building, fronting the south, and situated near the left bank of the river Lugg, about one mile north from the church of Marden. In a large hall, or drawing room are thirty-one family and other portraits; over the chimney is that of John Price, esq. who was the last of the male line of that family, and near him that of his lady; also a large portrait of Charles I. and the half length of an old woman, with this inscription under it:—*The picture of JOYCE ANDREWS, of the parish of Felton, aged 114; perfect in her sight, hearing, and other senses. She had a daughter in the 60th year of her age, which daughter lived 24 years. She was a maid, a wife, and a widow, during this life, but is since translated to an unchangeable state, and, through the mercy of God, enjoys everlasting bliss. 1660.*

Near the mansion is WISTASTON CHAPEL, which was given by Richard II. with some adjoining lands, to the preceptory of Dynmore; and after the dissolution of religious houses, the patronage and tithes were sold 7 Elizabeth, to Blanch Ap Harry (Parry of Backton), and soon after were acquired by the proprietors of Wis-

taston, who have since held them, and successively appointed Chaplains to perform the service. The old building was taken down, and the present erected by the last John Price, esq. who had a vault constructed in it, for the use of his family; and at one period had directed that his own remains should be deposited therein, with this inscription over them,

“ Here lies an honest man,
John Price, of Wistaston.”

He also endowed the chapel with a rent charge of £.20 per ann. payable from an estate called Lower Hope, in the Parish of Felton: to which £.25 per ann. have since been added by augmentations from the funds called Queen Anne's bounty. The chapel is built of stone, and in the east window are represented on painted glass in various coats and quarterings, the arms of Arden, Molyneux, Neville, Charn - - - Massy, Throckmorton, Bartley, Hampden, Somerhide, and Devereux. These were preserved from the window of the former chapel, and bear dates A. D. 1573—1580, &c. There is no sepulchral memorial and only one small bell.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Marden is a vicarage, charged in the ancient taxation at £.10 and paid £.5 as the ninth, granted to Edward I. A. D. 1286. It is estimated in the *Liber Regis* at £.5 13s. 5d. per ann. and consequently discharged from the payment of tenths, but of the clear certified value of £.40 5s. 7d.—The present value is nearly £.200 per ann.

In the eighth century Ethelbert, king of the East Angles, was murdered in the palace of Offa, king of Mercia; of which circumstance, a detail is given in the Collections for the parish of Sutton.

The superstition and credulity of this age led Offa to Rome to consult on the proper measures of expiating the crime, and his absolution was pronounced by the Pope, on the following conditions :

1. To build the church of Marden, and dedicate it to the Virgin Mary, on the place where the body of Ethelbert was buried, situate about one mile north-west from his palace.

2. To build or repair the cathedral church of Hereford, dedicating it to St. Ethelbert, and translating the saint's body to that church.

3. To give a virgate of his demesne lands next adjoining the site of his palace (where the parsonage house still remains), and also the great tithes of all his tenants in Marden, and double tithes, viz. the produce of the tenth ridge of certain lands ploughed and sowed by the occupiers, as well as the tenth sheaf or cock of corn or grain, to the canons of the said cathedral church.*

The benefit of these conditions, in their full extent, is still experienced by the dean and chapter of Hereford: the lands subjected to double tithes, were probably parts of those immediately held by Offa himself, and are now the property of Mr. Arkwright, by purchase from the Earl of Essex: they are situated in the townships of the Vaulde and the Verne, and on an estate called the Canons Barn.

The vicarage is in the jurisdiction of the Dean of Hereford, and is also presented to by the dean and chapter, having been given on the the same occasion. The church is mentioned in the *Liber Regis*† to be dedicated to St. Ethelbert, but the Pope's conditions were not likely to be dispensed with, nor does it appear probable

* Lord Coningsby's Marden.

† By A. Bacon, esq. quarto, 1786

that both the cathedral and this church should at the same time, and on the same occasion, be dedicated to one person. It is situated close to the left bank of the river Lugg, and consists of a nave and two side aisles, and a light and handsome chancel. Adjoining the north aisle, but communicating only with the porch, is a handsome embattled tower, with a spire and six good bells. At the west end of the nave, defended by circular stone work, is a well about ten inches in diameter, inclosing, about four feet below the pavement of the church, a spring supposed to arise from the spot in which the body of Ethelbert was first interred. It was too frequently the custom of these early days, to impress the minds of the people with an idea of something miraculous in whatever appertained to the church. Thus, this spring is said to have been held in great veneration from the circumstance of the water retaining its purity, when overflowed by the stream of the Lugg, however muddy and impure:—A slight observation would have taught them, that such a property is in some degree common to any cold and strong spring whatever.* Opposite to this well, is a nich in the west wall of the nave, probably designed for an effigies of Ethelbert. The church was whitewashed A. D. 1763, when the arms of the dean and chapter, or rather those of Ethelbert which they assumed, were obliterated from the wall and not replaced:—They are, *gules*, three crowns and a bezant in center, *or*. A chauntry was founded in this church and endowed with lands and tene-ments worth £.4 4s. 3d. per annum; there was also a yearly sti-

* A stream passing with considerable force and velocity through Llangorse Pool, in Breconshire, is frequently observed to retain its purity in a very great degree even after running completely through that water when most thick and impure.

pend of 8s. for a priest, in honour of the Trinity ; and a lamp was supplied by the rent of an acre of land (10*d.*) called lamp acre, in memory of an obit.

The *Lavacrum* was in the south wall of the chancel, but is now filled up ; and on flat stones within the communion rails are these inscriptions:—

Depositum Josephi Edwards, cleric: obiit
May 2, 1695, aged 28.

He whom for witt and learning all did prise
Lies here—filling with teares our weeping
eyes.

His parents' hope—his consort's only joy—
The worlds' delight—the churches prop and
stay—

To soon alas is from us snatcht away—

In short this stone doth here enshrine,
Philosopher, poet, and divine.

James Hathway, A. M. vicar of Marden 34
years, obiit December 9, 1694, ætat. 78.

Ann, his relict, died January 10, 1706, aged
85.

Here lies the man whom all men did admire,
And his facetious company desire :

The peaceful, hospitable, and the just,
Who in a good old age return'd to dust.

It doth exceed the act of verse to tell,
How loved he lived, and how lamented fell !

Chancel—on Flat Stones.

Blanch, daughter of Sir Henry Lingen, of
Sutton, and Alice, his wife, died July 30,
1712.

Richard Wooton, late of the Middle Tem-
ple, London, died at his house in Froman-
ton, March 31, 1662, AGED 104.

William Wooton, the elder, gent. died June
5, 1684, aged 76 years.

William, son of William Wooton, died 4th,
and was interred 5th July, 1671, aged 41.

Ann, relict of William, and daughter of Ri-
chard Wooton, gent. and inheritrix of his
estate, died December 14, 1686, aged 61.

Mrs. Meline Adams, daughter of William
Adams, gent. and Ann his wife, died June
27, 1718, aged 69.

William Adams, Sept. 15, 1669, aged 57.

On a brass plate three feet long, and inlaid in a flat stone, is a well engraved effigies of the lady of Sir George Chute ; on smaller plates on each side are represented her two daughters, and below this incription :

Under this monument lieth the body of Dame
Margaret, the most deere wife of Sir Geo.
Chute, knt. and daughter and sole heiress
of Thomas Welford, of Wisteston, esq.
deceased : whose Pietie and Virtues deserve

to survive in the memorie of Man, till this
her body shall rise again, re-united to her
blessed Sowle, to live with her Redeemer
for ever. She had by her said husband
two daughters onlie, Anne and Frances,

which Frances died the first day of her birth, her said mother following her the next day after, being June 9, A. D. 1614.*

On a shield is a lion passant, with other quarterings.

South Wall of Chancel.

Infra conduntur reliquiæ Saræ, Johannis
Unett de Sutton-Freene arm: uxoris—
Edward Chamberlayne de Monkton, in
hoc comitatu gen: filiæ. Obijt Oct. 3,
Anno { Domini 1732.
 { Ætatis suæ 44.

(Brass Plate).

Thomas Price, esq. eldest son of John Price,
of Wistaston, esq. died Feb. 20, 1738,
aged 44.

Thomas Henry Deschamps, only child of Henry and Elizabeth Deschamps, and great grandson of John Price, of Wistaston, esq. died Sept. 11, 1768, aged five years.

(On White Marble).

In memory of Philibert Burghill, of the family of Burghill, anciently lords of Burghill, Tillington, and Thinghill, in this county. He died December 30, 1653.

And of Jane his wife, daughter of John Gernons, of the ancient family of Gernons, of

Gernons, in this county. She died April 2, A. D. 1661.

How little, fame of ancestors avail,
If once the vulgar idol, riches—fail !
Since dust of greatest princes long since dead,
Cannot afford their wanting issue, bread :
Nor shining tombs, tho' such their bones in-
close,

Protect their offspring from pursuing foes!—
Now Cæsar's reliques no distinction have
To know them from the ashes of a slave—
In sons of men, alas ! where is the trust,
Whose glories lie so quickly in the dust :
Their boundless empires, mighty victories,
We see forgotten ever by the wise.
Old Rome's proud towers in scorned dust
lie hid,

And so shall Egypt's loftiest pyramid:—
Thus all things here in time's vast gulph
are drown'd,
Only good deeds in Heaven shall be renown'd.

Margaret, wife of William Watson, vicar of Marden, died April 14, 1767.

A few steps remain which probably led to the rood loft; and a pew lately constructed, covers an inscribed stone, which seems to have been placed in memory of some of the Wooton family.

Nave—on Flat Stones.

Walter Reece, died Sept. 24, 1708.

William Reece's sowle's

We hope in Heaven ;

His body was buried

In fifty seaven.

The orthodox truth

He did defend,
Of infant baptism,
To his latest end.

South Aisle—Flat Stone.

Judith, wife of Thomas Baker, gent. died
April 21, 1622.

* Silas Taylor remarked that "the name of Chute carried the memorial of the almost forgotten third nation of the Germans that conquered the Britons, and were commonly called *Jutes*, and often Chutes, and Wights." Harl. MS.

At the east end of the south aisle is a large and ancient altar monument, on which was deeply inserted a brass cross, with a vacancy on each side for shields of the same, but they are now removed: nor are there any other means of tracing the family to whom it belonged:—The probability is that it referred to one of the Freenes or Seculars. A brass plate found in a heap of broken stones and mortar near the above tomb, is thus inscribed in old characters.

Here lieth buried the body of Henry Wall, who deceased the yere of our Lord God, 1579.

Erth goeth uppon earth as moulde upon		As tho' erth to the erth never turne shoulde,
moulde;		And yet must erth to the erth, sooner than
Erth goeth uppon earth all glistering in		it woulde.
goulde,		

OCLE-PICHARD & LYRE-OCLE.

OCLE-PICHARD and LYRE-OCLE are bounded on the north by Felton and Moreton Jeffries, on the west by Preston, on the south-west by Withington, and on the east and north-east by Cowarne magna.

Acle, or (as it is now spelt) Ocle, belonged before the Norman Conquest to the church of Worcester; and a synod is said to have been held here about A. D. 804, in which Ethelric, son of Ethelmund, reminded the king, bishop, and princes assembled, of the liberty granted and adjudged to him at a former synod, of disposing of his lands and books to whom he pleased: * the etymology of the name is derived from the Saxon Ac, signifying an oak.

In the time of Canute the sheriffalty of this county was entrusted to Konig Ealdorman, who took Ocle from the church of Worcester. †

* Mon: Angl.: 127, but Sir H. Spelman does not notice it.

† Ibid 133.

At the Norman Conquest it was granted to Roger de Laci, and is thus noticed in the Survey of Domesday :—

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terræ Rogeri de Laci.—Idem Rogerus tenet Acle : sex liberi homines tenent pro sex maneriis, et poterant irè quo volebant. Ibi 7 hidæ geld. In dominio sunt 2 carucatae et 7 villarii et 10 bordarii et prepositus et faber cum 9 carucatis inter omnes. Ibi 12 servi. De hâc terrâ dedit Walterus de Lacy sancto Petro de Hereford duas carucatas terræ,* concessû Regis Willielmi, et 1 villarius et 1 bordarius cum terrâ eorum. Ibi sunt in dominio duæ carucatae et 1 villarius et 1 bordarius cum 1 carucatâ, et 1 servus ibi. Valet 25 solid. Quidam Rogerus tenet 75 solid. Tota T. R. E. valuit 7 libr. et 15 solid.”

A. D.
1086.

Ocle Pichard and Lyre Ocle, although included under the same title in Domesday, have generally been considered as altogether distinct from each other: but of late the church of the former receives the inhabitants of the latter, and as no inconvenience or confusion appears likely to result from treating of them both under the same general head of Ocle, it is proposed to follow that mode in the following account.

That part of Ocle called Ocle Pichard derived its additional name from a family holding it soon after the Norman Conquest, a branch of which were also lords of Sapey Pichard, in Worcestershire. Roger Pichard is thus mentioned in the Book of Fees made in the reign of Henry III.

1216

“ In Ocull Pichard 4 hidæ, quas Rogerus Pichard tenet per servitium militare, pro duabus partibus unius feodi de veteri feoffamento, de honore de Webbeley.”†

* This Land is still called *Monk Town*, and will be noticed hereafter.

† Harl. MS. 5223.

This Roger, 17 Henry III. was a pledge for the fidelity of Walter de Laci, until the kingdom should be settled in peace.* Miles Pichard was knight of the shire 30 Edward I. also 1 Edward II. and Roger Pichard was sheriff 12 Edward II. and 1 Edward III. Roger Pichard had also free warren here 13 Edward I. and in the same reign Milo Picard was sheriff of this county during six successive years from A. D. 1300.

A. D.
1285.

1300.

“ 34 Edward III. Johannes Pychard tenet 5 sol: redditûs in manerio de Lugwardyn de rege in capite per servitium 5s. per annum, faciend: ad cur: regis de Lugwardyn duas appearancias per annum pro omni servitio.”†

1348.

In the time of Edward III. Thomas Pichard was sheriff, and in the following year discharged that office with John Sholle as his colleague. After the battle of Poitiers, A. D. 1356, when John King of France was taken prisoner by Edward the Black Prince, a magnificent entertainment was given in honour of the victory by Henry Picard, then lord mayor of London; the prince and his royal captive were present; and the same Picard on a subsequent occasion is said to have entertained together the kings of England, France, Scotland, and Cyprus. The *Missale secundum usum Hereford*, quoted in the Collections for the parish of Avenbury, contains this entry relative to the Pichard family:

“ Mayus habet 30 dies. Luna 30. 4 Kalend: Obitus Johannis Pichart, militis, qui dedit cuppam argenteam viginti quatuor solidorum.”

John Pichard was vicar of this parish A. D. 1446: the name also of John Pichard was returned amongst the gentry of this

* Dug. Bar.

† Harl. MS. 606.

county 12 Henry VI. and a branch of this family resided during several generations in the parish of Cradley : they bore arms *gules*, a fesse *or*, between three escallops *argent*. In Ocle they were succeeded by the Clanowes, of whom Petrus de Clavenhagh had free warren here 8 Edward III. Of this family also Philip de Clanowe represented this county in parliament 16 Edward III. Thomas de Clanowe served the office of sheriff 21 Edward III. at which time John Fitz Philip de Clanowe was member of Parliament for the county. In the following reign Thomas Clanowe was sheriff 17 Richard II. Thomas Clanowe represented the county in parliament 20 Richard II. and Thomas Clanowe. *knt.* (probably the same person) was again elected in the following year. It does not at present appear how long Ocle belonged to the Clanowes. In the first year of Elizabeth it was held under the Crown by two parts of a knight's fee, and of the honour of Webley ; “ *Manerium de Ocle Pycharde tenetur de dominâ Reginâ per dua partes unius feodi militis de honore de Webley.*” * Ocle was afterwards held during several generations by the Chamberlayne family.

A. D.
1434.

1335.

1323.

1348.

1390.

1553.

On the death of Thomas Chamberlayne, A. D. 1732, and in consequence of the failure of male issue, this property was sold for the benefit of his widow and four daughters to Mr. Watkins, who resold it to James Walwyn, *esq.* of the ancient family of Walwyn, of Longworth, and grandfather of the late James Walwyn, *esq.* of that place, member of parliament for the city of Hereford. Mr. Walwyn gave Ocle in dower with his daughter Margaret on her marriage with Morgan Graves, *esq.* of Middleton, in the county of Gloucester, whose son Walwyn Graves, *esq.* now enjoys it.

* Harl. Bibl. 762.

HILL-HAMPTON

In this parish, is situated north from the church, and anciently belonged to the monastery of Malvern-magna.—Since the general dissolution of religious houses by Hen. VIII., it has been repeatedly sold, and affords no materials worthy of particular note. In the reign of Elizabeth it was held under the crown by military service, and was considered as possessing manerial rights.

“Manerium de Hill-Hampton, nuper monasterio Magnæ Malvern dudum spectans, tenetur de dominâ Reginâ in capite per servitium militare.”*

About this date, Hill-Hampton belonged to the Coke family, of whom Dr. George Coke was consecrated bishop of this diocese, A. D. 1636. In the year 1732, it was sold by Mr. Francis Coke, to Sylvanus Woodhill, of Mordiford, clerk, who by will dated 1749, bequeathed it, after the decease of his wife, to his kinsman, Mr. Thomas Garston the younger, who devised it to his son, Mr. John Garston, who sold it, A. D. 1809, to Mr. John Garrett, of the city of Hereford, who now enjoys it.

MONKTON,

A reputed manor, is situated west from the church, and forms the two carucates stated in Domesday to have been given by Walter de Lacy to the church of St. Peter's in Hereford, by consent of the king. The priory of St. Peter was at this time established in the church of that name, but was “afterwards translated thence to without the Bishops-Gate suburbe,† by Hugh Lacy of St.

* Harl. Bibl. 762.

† Now called Bye-street:—A house on the site was called *The Priory*, until taken down to make room for a new county and city gaol, A. D. 1793.

Guthlake; Betun, Bishop of Hereford, giving them “*situm novi loci*”* for that purpose. It thus acquired the name of St. Guthlake, and the lands in Ocle belonging to this house were called from that circumstance *Monk-Town*. Since the dissolution of abbies, when this property was sold, with their other possessions, the Chamberlains held Monkton during several generations, and at length sold it, about 1760, to Thomas Phillipps, esq. of Eaton Bishop, whose second son, Robert Phillipps, esq. a barrister, and elected M. P. for the city of Hereford A. D. 1784, now enjoys it.

The soil of Ocle approaches generally to a clay, and is favourable to the cultivation of wheat and beans.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Ocle Pichard was estimated at £.9 13s. 4d. per annum in the ancient taxation, and contributed 40s. to the ninth granted to Edward I. It was valued at 100s. in the taxation of Pope Nicholas, and paid 10s. on that occasion. The vicarage at that time was estimated at seven marks, and it contributed 9s. 4d. as the tenth:—In the *Liber Regis* of Henry VIII. it is discharged from the payment of tenths, being valued at £.4 19s. 10d. per annum, and the clear value at £.44, with house, orchard, and 2 acres of glebe:—present value about £.180. To the vicarage are annexed all the small tithes, together with the tithe of hay and corn on one half-yard land, and on one “nooke” called the Quicksets, both in Monkton; also the third part of the tithe of hay and corn in Hill-hampton and Ocle-Court farm, and the full

1286.

1292.

* Leland's Itin. Vol. III.

tithe of hay and corn of the other parts of the parish. The remaining portions of tithe belong to the proprietors of the several estates.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Abbot and Convent of Gloucester	1311 - -	Thomas de Thormaston.
The same - - -	1318 - -	Walter de Thormaston.
The same - - -	1349 - -	John le Whyte.
The same - - -	1360 - -	Richard de Kyneford.
The same - - -	1408 - -	Richard Brompton.
The same - - -	1413 - -	John Elye.
The same - - -	1416 - -	John Scole.
The same - - -	1426 - -	Henry Tompkins.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	Henry Wayte.
Abbot and Convent of Gloucester	1446 - -	John Pychard.
The same - - -	1472 - -	William Gloucester.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ - -	Rowland Frene.
John Price, gent. - - -	1541 - -	Roger Burghill.
John Price, knt. - - -	1554 - -	Humphrey Berkeley.
George Price and Thomas } Carwardin - - -	1569 - -	John Hawkins.
Gregory Price, esq. - - -	159 - -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ - -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ - -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ - -	George Linacre.
Richard Stephens, esq. - - -	1729 - -	Benjamin Rogers.
Richard Waring, clerk - - -	1760 - -	John Stevens.
The same - - -	1763 - -	Robert Hathway.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	Richard Morris.
John Seaborne, gent. - - -	_____ - -	George Livacre.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	Richard Gomond.
John Child, gent. - - -	1775 - -	Davies Child.
Mrs. Ann Child - - -	1793 - -	Vincent Wood.

The church is dedicated to St. James, and is situated on a pleasant eminence, half a mile south of the turnpike-road from Hereford to Bromyard, and at the distance of seven miles from the former. It consists of a nave, a chancel, with a small recess communicating with it on the north, and a tower with four bells. A chauntry was anciently founded in it, probably by one of the Pichard family: it was endowed with rents to the amount of 2s. 4d. only per annum, arising out of lands and tenements in the parish. On flat stones near the communion rails are these inscriptions:—

Thomas Chamberlain, late of Ocle Court,
gent. died Jan. 1, 1732, aged 61.

William Chamberlain, gent. died April 30,
1741, aged 60.

Edward, son of William Chamberlain, late
of Monkton, died May 23, 1741, aged 22.

Rev. Richard Gomond, late vicar of this
parish, died April 10, 1775, aged 65.

James, son of Benjamin Rogers and Mary
his wife, died an infant, May 11, 1733.

On flat Stones in the Chancel.

John Mason, gent. died Sept. 27, 1724,
aged 48.

Mary Mason, widow and relict of John,
Jan. 20, 1739.

LYRE-OCLE

Was given (probably by Walter de Laci), to the celebrated abbey of Lyre, in Normandy, the name of which it thus acquired in addition to that of Ocle.* The monks of Lyre had a cell or residence here, with a superintending prior. In the reign of Henry III. it consisted of one hide, and was held by them, of the honour of Snodhull;

“ In Oculi Lira 1 hida quam Prior de Lira tenet in puram et perpetuam eleemosinam de honore de Snodhull de veteri feoffamento.”†

A. D.
1216.

* Mr. Blount in his MS. suggested the poetical idea that the additional name was derived from some celebrated harper, whose *lyre* had been attuned here with particular celebrity.

† Lib. Feod. Hen. III. Bibl. Harl.

A. D.
1259.

The abbot and convent of Lyre exchanged their rent of 40s. at a place called Sheningfield, for the tithes of Lyre Ocle. They are stiled in the agreement “ Abbas et Conventus de Lyre-Ocle ;”^{*} and amongst the obits formerly celebrated in the cathedral of Hereford, was that of “ Willielmi de Insulâ, prioris de Ocle.”

1380.

John (Gilbert) Bishop of Hereford, released the Prior of Lyvers-Ocle from a suspension issued against him for non-payment of procurations, &c.[†]

1413.

In the reign of Henry V. that king gave to the priory of Sheen, in the county of Surrey, all possessions in England belonging to the abbey of Lyre, excepting only Hincley, in the county of Gloucester.[‡] Lyre Ocle thus passed to another religious house, in the possession of which it remained until their general dissolution

1539.

by Henry VIII. after which it was granted by letters patent, dated July 8, 1542, to Sir Philip Hobby, knt. and his heirs, to hold in chief, paying an annual tenth or rent of 14s. as reserved in the grant: the chapel and all the royalties and hereditaments were included in the grant.

1598.

“ Anno 1 Eliz. manerium de Ocle Lyre, nuper monasterio de Sheene dudum spectans, tenetur de dominâ reginâ in capite per serv. militare.”[§]

Hugh Walsh afterwards held this part of Ocle, and sold it to Henry Gower and Thomas Smith: || it next came into possession of the Bateman family, of Shobdon Court, in this county, and descended to John, Lord Viscount Bateman, of the kingdom of Ireland, who dying, A. D. 1802, bequeathed this property to

* Ex MS. Eccl. Heref.
§ Harl. Bibl. 762.

† Regr. Gilbert.
|| Blount's MS.

‡ Mon. Ang. 975.

William Hanbury, esq. of Kilmarsh, in the county of Northampton, who dying, A. D. 1807, was succeeded by his son, William Hanbury, esq. the present proprietor of Shobdon and Kilmarsh, and M. P. for the city of Northampton.

Lyre-Ocle contributes to the maintenance of its own poor only, and is exempt from the payment of tithes.—A small chapel, situated on the north side of the road from Hereford to Bromyard, and distant six miles from the former, still remains; but the vicinity of the church of Ocle Pichard, and other circumstances, have occasioned a discontinuance of religious service in it for some time.—No institutions to this chapel are recorded in the registers of the bishops: the proprietors of the estate allowed a competent stipend to a chaplain of their own nomination; and the building has nothing worthy of notice.

PARISH OF PENCOMB.

PENCOMB is bounded on the north by Grendon, on the east by Bromyard, on the south by Ullingswick, and on the west by part of Bodenham. Pencomb, being situated at the upper end of a valley, derives its name from the British *Pen*, “a head,” or upper end, and *Cwm*, “a valley.”

“After the conflicts between Edmund Ironside and Canute, England being to be divided between them, Ronig was made sheriff of Herefordshire, and by force took *Pencofan* from the church of Worcester.”*

A. D.
1017.

* Mon. Ang. Note p. 133: ibid 118.

A. D.
1086.

Pencomb was held soon after the Conquest by Agnes, widow of Turstinus Flandrensis, who was one of the landholders in this county, and thus noticed in the Survey of Domesday :—

“ Agnes, relictā Turstini Flandrensis, et Eustacius Miles, filius ejus, dominus de Whitney, dederunt ecclesiæ Sancti Petri Glocest: unam hidam terre in Pencomb Sudenhalle, liberam ab omni re, tempore Reginaldi Abbatis.”

Eustace, son of Agnes, assumed the name of Whitney from his possessions, and thus established a family of that name, which was long situated at Whitney in the hundred of Grimsworth, and which, with their pedigree, will be particularly noticed in the collections for that parish.

In the reign of Henry III. Pencombe was stated to consist of fifteen hides of land, one moiety of which was held by John de Whytene, of Robert Tregoz, and the other moiety by Thomas de Hemeganes, of Robert de Whytene, by military service, and both of the honour of Ewias :—

1216.

“ In Pencombe continentur 15 hidæ, unde Johannes de Whytene, tenet medietatem de Roberto Tregoz, de honore de Ewias, de veteri feoffamento, per serv. militare, et Thomas de Hemegane alteram medietatem, de Roberto de Whytene, et idem Robertus de eodem, &c. ut supra.”*

1277.

A. D. 1277 Eustacius de Whytene presented John de Chaundos to the church of Pencombe, and had also free warren granted him

1284.

here 12 Edward I.

1353.

Afterwards Robert de Whytene presented Baldwyn de Whytene to the church of Pencomb.†

* Leb. Feod. H. III.

† Reg. Trilleck.

In the time of John (Gilbert) Bishop of Hereford, license was granted by him to John, rector of Pencomb, to celebrate mass in his "Oratorium," as often as he pleased.*

The name of "Robertus Whiteney, Chivaler," was returned in the list of gentry, &c. in this county, made by commissioners 12 Henry VI. Robert Whitney was also sheriff of Herefordshire 1 Richard II. and many others of this family, as will be particularised hereafter, held that and other provincial offices of trust in the subsequent reigns.

A. D.
1433.

The lords of the manor of Pencomb claimed by ancient custom a pair of gilt spurs as an heriot, from every mayor of the city of Hereford who dies in that office. In the reign of Elizabeth the manor continued in the Whitney family, and was held as before by military service, of the honour of Ewias:—"Manerium de Pencomb tenetur de honore de Ewyas per servitium militare."†

1558.

In the beginning of the eighteenth century, it was sold, with the patronage of the church, by Sir Robert Whitney, knt. to Sir Thomas Coningsby, knt. of Hampton-Court, in this county, from whom it descended to the present Earl of Essex, who sold it to Richard Arkwright, esq. with the several manors, &c. as already traced in this hundred.

MARSHTON,

Anciently written Merscheton, is an estate in this parish, and is noticed in the book of fees temp. H. III.

"In Merscheton continetur una hida, unde Johannes de Wintercote, tenet unam medietatem de heredibus Walteri Travel, per

* Reg. Gilbert.

† Bibl. Harl. 762.

serv. militare de honore de Webbeley, et Andreas de Bradeley alteram medietatem de Johanne de Grendon, de veteri feoffamento et Johanne de Grendon de Philippo de Sarnesfelde: idem Phil: de honore de Webbeley, de eodem feoffamento."

20 Edward I. "Johannes le Wafre tenet duas virgatas terre in ville de Mershton, in capite de domino rege per servitium condu-
cendi thesaurum domini regis de Hereford usque ad London, quotiescunque summonitus fuerit per vice-comitem, cum uno equo and capello ferreo (*i. e.* an iron helmet), sumptibus domini regis, viz. 12*d.* quolibet die versus London, et in redeundo sump-
tibus suis propriis."*—"10 Edw. II. Rogerus de Lye tenet de rege in capite in ville de Merston, in com. Heref: 9*s.* 6*d.* redd: per serv: 5*s.* 6*d.* solv: regi ad scaccarium suum per manus vice-com: Heref: quolibet anno, in festo Sci Mich: Archang: pro omni ser-
vitio."† In the book of fees compiled 1 Eliz. Marshton is thus noticed as part of the parish of Bodenham:—"Manerium de Marshton tenetur de dominâ reginâ per serv: mil: de honore de Webley."‡ It afterwards belonged during several generations to the Hurt family, of whom Mrs. — Hurt built a small chapel here, A. D. 1744, and endowed it with £.200: an augmentation from Queen Anne's bounty has since been procured, and divine service is performed by a chaplain nominated by the rector of Pencomb:—It is situated three miles north-west from the parish church, but no interments are made at Marshton. The representa-
tives of Mrs. — Hurt sold the estate to Sir John Peachey, bart. whose son Sir James Peachey, bart. was created Baron Selsey, of Selsey in Sussex, A. D. 1794, and dying A. D. 1808, was suc-

* Plac. cor. de anno 20 Edward I.

† MS. Bibl. Harl. 706.

‡ Bibl. Harl. 762.

ceeded by his son John, now Baron Selsey, and proprietor of Marston.

The soil of Pencomb is generally a strong loam, and favourable to the culture of wheat, beans, and hops; nearly two-thirds, however, of the parish consist of pasture and meadow land. The timber is principally oak and ash: there are about fifty acres of coppice, and no waste land. A brook entering Pencomb from the township of Winslow (in Bromyard parish) and working a corn-mill, runs into Stoke Lacy. The population has been nearly doubled within the last hundred years.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Pencomb was estimated in the ancient taxation at eighteen marks and 5s. per annum; contributed £.3 18s. 6d. to the ninth granted to Edward I. and is a rectory, valued in the *Liber Regis* at £.13 6s. 8d.: present value £.400 per annum. The obit of Ralph priest of "Pencumbe" was annually celebrated in the cathedral church of Hereford, on the 10th of April. The patronage has been enjoyed by the successive lords of the manor, as will appear by the following list of patrons and incumbents.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Eustacius de Whitney - -	1277 - -	John de Chaundos.
----- de Whitney - -	1280 - -	Roger de Whitney.
----- - - - -	12-- - -	-----
(No Patron mentioned) - -	1342 - -	W. D. de Witenie.
Robert de Whitney - -	1353 - -	Baldwin de Whitney.
Baldwin de Whitney - -	1357 - -	Richard de Hurtesleigh.
----- - - - -	1378 - -	John -----
----- - - - -	----- - -	Eustacius Whitney.

PATRONS.				A. D.	INCUMBENTS.			
Robert Whitney, knt.	-	-	-	1419	-	-	Robert Burleston.	
The same	-	-	-	1428	-	-	Roger Brown.	
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	_____	
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	_____	
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	_____	
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	William Duckett.	
Robert Whitney	-	-	-	1539	-	-	John Burghill.	
The Crown (Robert Whitney	}	-	-	_____	-	-	Robert Keyson.	
being a minor)								
Robert Baskerville and Mary	}	-	-	1546	-	-	Roger Struttie.	
his wife								
Robert Whitney, knt.	-	-	-	1567	-	-	Thomas Walwyn.	
The same	-	-	-	1567	-	-	Thomas Morse.	
James Whitney, knt.	-	-	-	159—	-	-	Walter Winston.	
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	_____	
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	_____	
Sampson Wyse, esq.	-	-	-	1662	-	-	William Hill.	
_____	-	-	-	1693	-	-	Thomas Norbury.	
Baron Coningsby	-	-	-	1716	-	-	Lucas Hathway.	
Margaret Countess of Coningsby	-	-	-	1729	-	-	Nicholas Harris.	
The same	-	-	-	1756	-	-	George Coningsby.	
Lady Frances Coningsby	-	-	-	1766	-	-	Samuel Horne.	
The same	-	-	-	1767	-	-	John Glasse.	

The church is situated on a small eminence, and is a very ancient and substantial structure in the Saxon stile.—It consists of an aisle and chancel, separated by a thick wall, and communicating under a Saxon arch; the east end of the chancel is also similarly divided from a semicircular recess beyond, in which is situated the altar.—On the south side of the church, and communicating with it from the inside, is a low tower with three bells: the whole is neatly fitted up; and on flat stones in the chancel are these inscriptions:—

Thomas Syrrrell, gent. died December 12, 1726, aged 49.

Thomas Norbury, twenty-three years rector of this parish, died August 17, 1716, aged 62.

John Greene, late of Hagdon, gent. died June 17, 1708.

North Wall.

Sarah, wife of John Cook, gent. died Aug. 1, 1787, aged 37.

Also Thomas and John, his sons by his first wife, and John, by his second, all died in their infancy.

West side of the Wall between the Church and Chancel.

Samuel Sirrell, born at Wotton, in this parish, A. D. 1707, lived there upwards of forty years, and removed from thence to Wisteston's-Court, and there resided to the end of his life, August 30, 1780, aged

73, and is now entered upon an unchangeable state, and through the mercy of God and the merits of Jesus Christ, enjoys eternal life.

On a flat stone in the body of the church was formerly* this coat, viz. a cross *checquee*; but it is not now to be met with.

In the church-yard is an altar tomb, surrounded with iron rails, and thus inccribed:—

In memory of George Coningsby, D. D. rector of Pencomb:

He died March 15, 1766, aged 73.

Mr. William Hill, also rector of this parish, was interred in the church-yard, A. D. 1693, but there is no memorial over him.

PARISH OF SAPEY.

SAPEY is bounded in three directions by the county of Worcester; viz. on the north by Hanley-William and Stanford-upon-Team, on the east by Standford and Clifton-upon-Team, and on the south by Sapey-Pichard. The parish of WolfreLOW connects it with this county on the west.

* A. D. 1656. Silas Taylor, MS. Bibl. Harl.

It is generally called Sapey Superior, or Upper Sapey, to distinguish it from other places of the same name in the vicinity of this.

Sapey is not mentioned in Domesday Book, but not long after
 A. D. 1285. gave name to a family holding it, of whom Richard de Sapey, knt.
 1306. lived about the middle of the thirteenth century and presented to
 1329. the church, A. D. 1285.* He was succeeded by Petronilla de Sapey, who presented to the church, A. D. 1306, and had free warren here 2 Edward III.:—John de Sapey, knt. also presented to the church, A. D. 1380,† and seems to have been the last of the family here.

About this time Geoffrey, a penitentiary, gave two yard-lands in Over-Sapey, for the foundation of an obit in the church of Hereford.‡
 1433. Of the Sapey family none of their name occur in the list of sheriffs about this date, or in that of the gentry of Herefordshire, 12 Henry VI. it is therefore probable they either changed their residence or became extinct, about the end of the fourteenth century.

They were succeeded here by the ancient family of Cokesey, (now Cooksey), of whom Hugh de Cokesey had lands in the adjoining parish of Stanford as early as 20 Edw. III. (1347).—Walter de Cokesey, chivalier, was lord of Sapey, A. D. 1384, and presented to the church in that year. Soon afterwards Sapey was held by a branch of the great family of Mortimer, then residing at Kyre, in the county of Worcester, from whom it passed to the Crofts, of Croft's Castle, by the marriage of Sir Hugh Mortimer, knt. with Eleanor, widow of Sir Richard Croft, knt. In the year 1458, the church was presented to jointly by Sir Robert Croft, knt.

* Swinfield Reg. † Reg. Gilbert. ‡ MS. Cant. Mayle.

and “*pernobilis mulier Eleanora relictæ Hugonis Mortimer de Kyre.*”^{*} Richard Croft was patron, A. D. 1476. Humphrey Packington, esq. of Chaddeſly Corbet, in Worceſtershire, was lord of Sapey in the reign of Henry VIII.: he built a bridge over the river Teme to connect the two properties.[†]

Of this family John Packington was ſheriff of this county 30 Henry VIII. and bore arms per chevron, *sable* and *argent*, in chief three mulletts *or*, in baſe as many garbes, *gules*. In the year 1591, Humphrey Packington, esq. ſold to the ſeveral freeholders, copyholders, and leſſees (five freeholders only excepted), the inheritance and all the rents and ſervices, &c. of the ſeveral lands they held of him.[‡] He alſo ſold to Arthur Salwey, esq. of Stanford-Court, in the county of Worcester, the manor of Sapey with its appertenance and the five freeholders rents and ſervices, the waſte ground and royalties, and the advowſon of the church of Sapey.

A. D.
1591.

Arthur Salwey, esq. was ſucceeded by Edward Salwey, who at his death left three ſiſters his co-heireſſes. Of theſe Elizabeth married Sir Francis Winnington, knt. who was born A. D. 1634, and deſcended from Robert Winnington, lord of Winnington in Cheshire, in the reign of Edward I. Sir Francis was appointed ſolicitor general to Charles II. A. D. 1672, and died 1700, ſeized of the manor of Sapey, &c. in the right of his wife. He left iſſue, Salwey Winnington, esq. who A. D. 1690, had married Ann, ſecond daughter of Thomas Foley, of Witley, esq. and ſiſter to Thomas Lord Foley. He was ſucceeded by his ſon Thomas, a lord of the admiralty in the year 1730, of the treaſury in 1736;

1634.

1672.

1700.

^{*} Reg. Gilbert. [†] Naſh's Worceſter, vol. 2. f. 367. [‡] MS. penes Sir T. Winnington, bart.

was of the privy council in 1740, and finally paymaster general of the forces, in which office he died, A. D. 1746. He was succeeded by Edward, who was created a baronet, A. D. 1755, and left a son Edward, who married Ann, fourth daughter of Thomas Foley, of Witley, and had issue, Thomas-Edward, the present baronet, born A. D. 1779, and married Joanna, second daughter of John Taylor, esq. of Mosely-Hall, Worcestershire, A. D. 1810.

The residence of Sir Thomas Winnington is in the adjoining Parish of Stanford, in an extensive park, the east end of which is included in the parish of Sapey. He bears arms, *argent*, an orle between eight martlets, *sable*.

Sapey contains about 1500 statute acres of land, of which 20 only are waste. The soil of some parts of the parish is a loamy clay, and in others it inclines to a sand. Wheat and oats are the grain principally raised, and the timber consists, in general, of oak and ash. A brook, sometimes called Sapey Brook, rises in the north part of this parish, and runs into Sapey-Pichard in Worcestershire. Three separate turnpike roads under as many different acts of parliament, pass through Sapey, viz. 1. That from Hereford through Bromyard, to Bewdley, Kidderminster, and Stourport, in length about two miles and an half. 2. That from Worcester, through Clifton to the town of Tenbury; and 3. That from the Hundred House to the same town, each in length, about one mile.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Sapey is a rectory, estimated at seven marks in the ancient taxation, contributed 29s.4d. to the ninth granted to Edward I.; was again valued at seven marks in the taxation of A. D. 1292: and

in the *Liber Regis* is stated to be of the value of £.9 5s. 7½d. per ann. with glebe lands worth 12s. per ann.—present value about £.160.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Richard de Sapey, knt. - -	1285 - -	Simon de Cestreton.
Petronilla de Sapey - -	1306 - -	Hugh de Sapey.
John de Sapey, knt. - -	1316 - -	Hugh de Bromyard.
The Bishop of Hereford - -	1317 - -	Paul de Godrich.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	William Wyring.
Roger Mortimer - - -	1353 - -	John Scott.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	John Benet.
John Sapey, knt. - - -	1380 - -	John Wynford.
Walter de Cokesey, chivalier -	1384 - -	Thomas _____
John Brugge, esq. - - -	1436 - -	John Wafreton.
_____ - - -	_____ - -	John Knight.
Robt. Croft, knt. and "per- nobilis mulier Eleanor, relict: Hug. Mortimer de Kyre." - - -	1458 - -	Thomas Cartwright.
Richard Croft, esq. - - -		
_____ - - -	_____ - -	_____
Thomas West, knt. - - -	1523 - -	George Croft.
John Pakynton, gent. - - -	1524 - -	Thomas Parker.
John Pakynton, esq. - - -	1543 - -	William Griffiths.
John Pakynton, of Chaddes- ley Corbett, in county of Worcester, esq. - - -	1574 - -	Thomas Baugh.
Humphrey Packington - - -		
_____ - - -	_____ - -	_____
_____ - - -	_____ - -	Thomas Wright.
Francis Winnington, knt. - -	1683 - -	Francis Addenbroke.
Salwey Winnington, esq. - -	1725 - -	John Addenbroke.
The same - - -	1727 - -	John Nash.
Thomas Winnington, esq. - -	1736 - -	Robert Comyn.
Sir Edward Winnington, bart. -	1769 - -	John Walker.

It remains to be remarked, that Sir Francis Winnington, knt. one of the above recited patrons of this church, was a zealous supporter of those measures in parliament which effected the glorious revolution of 1688; and that the present worthy rector, Mr. Walker, has erected a new and commodious parsonage house, of brick, about two hundred yards east from the church.

The church is situated on the north side of the turnpike road from Hereford through Bromyard to Stourport, &c. at the distance of six miles from Bromyard. It is a small building, consisting of a nave and chancel communicating under a handsome Saxon arch, distinguished by the zig zag ornament. It has also a wooden cupola with two bells. Out of the rents of lands belonging to Rychard Wynford, 2s. per ann. were paid towards supporting two lamps here. On flat stones within the communion rails are these inscriptions:—

Hugh Lea, gent. late of Lea, died April 26, 1622.

(The Lea estate in this parish was afterwards purchased by the Rev. Mr. Addenbroke, rector, and still continues in his family).

Francis Kinge, gent. died December 13, 1688, aged 79.

Francis Addenbroke, many years rector of this parish, died Jan. 22, 1724, aged 72.

Arms.—A fesse wavy, between three crescents—impaled with a chevron between three greyhounds.

Elizabeth Addenbroke, his relict, died Feb. 6, 1744, aged 86.

On a Flat Stone in the Chancel.

Thomas Seward, late of Burton, died April 29, 1709, aged 62.

Margaret his wife, June 24, 1720, aged 59.

Thomas, their son, Oct. 24, 1740, aged 45.

And Mary, his widow, July 24, 1766, aged 74.

On a Flat Stone in the Aisle.

Elizabeth Kinge, died April 27, 1700, aged 56.

John Nott, Jan. 6, 1670.

North Wall of Church,

(On a Tablet of White Marble).

Edward Addenbroke, esq. died July 7, 1791, aged 90 years.

Margaret, his sister, died October 31, 1784, aged 79.

Henry, son of John Huck, by Anne his wife, was interred December 25, 1757, aged 45.

PARISH OF STOKE-BLISS.

STOKE-BLISS is bounded on the east by Sapey, on the south by Collington, on the west by Kyre, and on the north by Hanley, both in the county of Worcester.

The additional name of Bliss was acquired from a family, who held it in the reign of Henry III. and perhaps at an earlier date. In the time of that king it was stated to consist of one hide only, which was held by William Blez, as of the honor of Radnor, by military service:—

A. D.
1216.

“ In Stoke-Blez una hida pro dimid: feodi per servitium militare de veteri feoffamento quam Willielmus Blez, tenet de honore de Radnere.”*

William was succeeded by William, who was succeeded by Hugh. This Hugh granted to Catherine de Lacy, prioress of Aconbury, A. D. 1262, rents in Stoke-Bliss amounting to twenty-three shillings and nine-pence:—

1262.

“ Carta domini Hugonis de Bles. Sciant, &c. quod ego, Hugo de Bles, filius domini Willi de Bles, dedi, &c. dnæ: Catherine de Lacy pro viginti Marcis Argenti quas ipsa mihi dedit pre manibus, viginti tres solidos et novem denarios annui redditûs, quos habui ex dono dicti domini Willielmi, patris mei, in villâ de Stoke de Bles, quos annuatim consuevi recipere, &c.—habend: et ten: dictum redditum annuatim, de me et hæredibus meis sibi et hæredibus suis, reddendo inde annuatim mihi et hæredibus meis,

* Bibl. Harl. 5223.

unum denarium in festo Sancti Michaelis, &c. In cujus rei testimonium, &c. &c. His testibus,

A. D.
1262.

DNO. RICARDO DE BAGINGEDEN, }
HENRICO DE BRADELEGH, } *Militibus.*
JOHANNE LE MOYNE,
PHILIPPO LE PAUMER,
WILLIELMO DE LOGES,
WARINO DE GRENDENE,
WILLIELMO DE COLINTON,
WARINO DE MUNTRICH,
JOHANNE DE BOCKLINTON, *et aliis.*

*Datum A. D. 1262. Die beate Margarete, apud Hereford.**

1300. The family of Blez or Bles, probably became extinct soon after the above period. They were succeeded in it by the Mortimers, of whom “nobilis dominâ Matilda de Mortimer,” presented to the church of Stoke-Bliss, A. D. 1300.† Coming to the crown with Edward IV. it was first leased with other considerable property in the parishes of Thornbury, &c. to Edward, Duke of Somerset, and afterwards to the Devereux family.‡

1460. In the reign of Elizabeth, the manor was held as before, by the service of half a knight’s fee, but was then stated to be of the honor of Webley:—

“Anno Eliz. primo, manerium de Stoke-Blys tenetur de dominâ reginâ per dimid: part: unius feodi milites de honore de Webley.§”

1601. After the attainder of the Earl of Essex, it was granted *inter alia* to William Baskerville, of the ancient house of Baskerville, of Eardisley, in this county; whose descendant sold it about

* Aconbury Register.

† See Thornbury.

‡ See lists of Patrons and Incumbents.

§ Bibl. Harl. 762.

A. D. 1690, to Samuel Pytts, esq. of Kyre, in the county of Worcester. Samuel Pytts was succeeded by his son Edmund, who was succeeded by his son Jonathan Pytts, esq. the present proprietor of this and other considerable estates in this vicinity. It will also be seen by the ecclesiastical account, that the Pytt family had possessions in this parish, and were buried here during several generations before they purchased the manor.

A hamlet called Little-Kyre, and forming part of the county of Worcester, is situated in this parish.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of "Stoke-Bles" was estimated at ten marks in the ancient taxation, and contributed 33s. 4d. to the ninth granted to Edward I. On the latter occasion it was observed "et eo minus quia maxima pars ejusdem ecclesie est in comitatu Wigorn."* It was also estimated at ten marks in the taxation of Pope Nicholas, and contributed one mark as the tenth.—In the *Liber Regis* it is stated to be a vicarage of the value of £.6 16s. 8d. per annum, with glebe worth 20s.—Present value about £.160 per annum. It formerly paid small pensions to the vicars of Bromyard, and to the priors of Lynebrooke and Sheen. The patronage was given by the Mortimers to the former house early in the fourteenth century, and on the 26th September, 30th Henry VIII. the prioress and convent of Lynebrooke granted "a lease to William Pitt and his assigns, of the tythes of whete, of rye, of barlye, of otes, of pesen, and of all other corne and graynes in the

A. D.
1521.

* Nonarum, published by Parliament, A. D. 1800.

townships of Pery and Hyde, within the parish of Stoke-Bliss, for forty-one years, under the yearly rent of thirty-shillings, payable at the fest of St. Petre.”* After the dissolution of Lynebrooke priory, the patronage was retained by the crown, and still continues in that presentation.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Nobilis domina Matilda de } Mortuomari - - - }	1300 - -	William de Lyngayne.
Prioress and Convent of } Lymbroke - - - }	1314 - -	William de la Rowe.
The same - - - -	1349 - -	William de Moselaye.
The same - - - -	1349 - -	William Symonds.
The same - - - -	1349 - -	John de Madely.
The Bishop of Hereford -	1352 - -	Laurence de Radenore.
Prioress and Convent of } Lymbroke - - - }	1354 - -	John of the Hull.
The same - - - -	1361 - -	Thomas Stockwich.
The same - - - -	1384 - -	Richard Wakelecan.
The same - - - -	1409 - -	Richard Benthall.
The same - - - -	1410 - -	William Symonds.
_____ - - - -	_____ - -	William Palmer.
_____ - - - -	_____ - -	_____
_____ - - - -	_____ - -	_____
_____ - - - -	1571 - -	Rowland Turner.
_____ - - - -	1599 - -	Thomas Cole.
_____ - - - -	1614 - -	Richard Parker.
_____ - - - -	1615 - -	John Blakeway.
_____ - - - -	1619 - -	Edward Russell.
_____ - - - -	1668 - -	Matthew Bolton.
The Crown - - - -	1679 - -	Luke Ashby.

* Conventual Leases in Augmentation Office.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
The Crown - - - -	1716 - -	Thomas Spilsbury.
The same - - - -	1717 - -	Alexander Dykes.
The same - - - -	1740 - -	Edwin Sandys.
The same - - - -	1746 - -	Samuel Stinton.
The same - - - -	1764 - -	Philip Cocks.
The same - - - -	1768 - -	Thomas Stevens.
The same - - - -	1771 - -	Sir John Peshall, knt.
The same - - - -	1778 - -	Ananias Brettell.

The church is situated on a small eminence in a pleasant vale, half a mile east from the turnpike road through Bromyard to Tenbury, and at the distance of five miles and an half from the former. It consists of a nave and south aisle, a chancel, tower, and wooden cupola, with four bells. The entrance is under a pointed arch, having the *lavacrum* projecting from the right wall. The east end of the aisle appears to have been used as a chapel for the service of a chauntry, which was probably endowed by some of the Bles family. In the south wall of this chapel is also a *lavacrum* under a pointed arch. The chancel has a low wainscoating of brown oak, on which are carved as follows—"Edward Russel, vicar, A. D. 1631."

INSCRIPTIONS.

On a Flat Stone within the Communion Rails.
Mr. Thomas Spilsbury, one year the worthy and excellent minister of this parish, died Feb. 3, 1717, aged 29.

North Wall of Chancel.

Matthew Bolton, vicar of this parish, died May 7, 1679.
Mr. Luke Ashby, late minister of this parish, died Dec. 21, 1716, aged 55.

Rev. Samuel Stinton, late rector of this parish, was interred October 29, 1764, aged 53.

On a Flat Stone in the Chancel.

Thomas Hammond, gent. died April 17, 1706, aged 91.
Isabella his wife, died March 28, 1713.
They lived 66 years happily in matrimony, and were blessed with a numerous issue.

On Flat Stones in the Nave.

Thomas Pytts was interred June 8, 1594.

Also Richard Pytts, Sept. 29, 1657.

And Matthew Pytts, August 28, 1671.

Mary, wife of Richard Pytts, died March 19, 1652.

Edward Burwall was interred March 15, 1664.

North Wall.

Here lie John Powell (son of John, son of William, all of this parish), and like-

wise his grand-father's father, two wives, and one daughter: the late deceased John died October 28, 1763, aged 89, and in honour and respect to his parents, this stone is erected by his son, John Powell.

Also Elizabeth, wife of John, and daughter of Richard Jones, gent. was buried May 15, 1776, aged 40 years.

The pulpit is of brown oak, curiously carved and painted, date "1635, Roger Osland, churchwarden." The font is large and circular, on a corresponding base and shaft.

PARISH OF STOKE-LACY.

STOKE-LACY is bounded on the north-east by Bromyard, on the west by Cowarne Parva, on the south by Cowarne Magna, and on the east by Stanford Bishop, and Avenbury.

The additional name of Lacy, is derived from Roger de Lacy, to whom it was granted after the Norman conquest, as appears by the following extract from Domesday:—

"In Plegeliet Hund: Terra Rogeri de Laci.—Idem Rogerus tenet Stoekes: Elmer (Cilt) tenuit, et quo volebat ire, poterat.—Ibi 10 hidæ geld: In dominio sunt 3 carucatæ et 22 villarii cum 6 carucatis, et aliæ 6 adhuc possent esse. Ibi 11 servi et molindinum de 5 solidis. T. R. E. valuit 10 libr: modo similiter."

A. D.
1086.

Walter de Lacy, who succeeded Roger, gave to the church of St. Peter in Hereford, which he built, one villan in Stoke.* [That is, the lands and services of one villan or husbandman.]

Stoke-Lacy afterwards was held by the Devereux family, and is thus mentioned in the Book of Fees, compiled in the reign of Henry III.:—

A. D.
1216.

“ In Stoke-Lacy continentur novem hidæ, unde Wills. Deveros tenet sex et dimid: de honore de Webbeley, pro quartâ parte feodi unius militis, de veteri feoffamento: et Ricardus Beauson duas hidas et dimid: in eodem modo; et respond: de aliquo servitio.”†

In the reign also of Richard II. William Deveros held one knight's fee, situated in this parish, Haymond's Frome, and Hamm Lacy; and John de Beauson, half a knight's fee in Stoke-Lacy, all of which were stated to be of the honor of Wiggemore.‡ The estate thus held in Hamm Lacy is called “ Devereux Bower,” and now forms part of the possessions of Charles Duke of Norfolk, &c. in right of his marriage with the heiress of the Scudamore family.

Roger Mortimer, had also lands in Stoke-Lacy, which came afterwards to his widow, or perhaps were settled on her:

“ Anno Edwardi tertii, 30. Johanna quæ fuit uxor Rogeri de Mortuomari, militis, tenuit die quo obiit maneria de Mawrdyn, Malmeshull Lacy, Wolfreslowe, &c. &c. ac 23 feoda militum in Bodenham, Stoke-Lacy, Wolfreslowe, &c. &c. &c. de rege in capite, per servitium dimid: feodi militis.”§

* Monast. Ang.

‡ Inquis. 22. R. II.

† Bibl. Harl. 5223.

§ Bibl. Harl. 606. f. 301.

The prior and convent of Wormesley had also possessions in this parish, called Freeman's Land, and Hall-Place Land; these were leased out 23 Henry VII. to Parsall [Percival] Mayveyll, and his assigns, for the term of 61 years: at the expiration of which they were re-granted to William Buriton, gent. and his assigns at the yearly rent of £.1 10s. 4d. The premises consisted of one carucate of land with a messuage thereon.*

A branch of the Berringtons possessed the manor, and various lands in Stoke-Lacy after they were alienated by the Devereux family.

A. D.
1558.

In the reign of Elizabeth, the manor was held by the fourth part of a knight's fee, of the honor of Webley: "Anno Eliz. primo—Manerium de Stoke-Lacy, tenetur de dominâ reginâ per quartam partem unius feodi militis, de honore de Webbeley."†

Some time after this date, the Berringtons parted with the whole of their property here. The lower Part or Town, was sold to — Blount, who re-sold it to — Lord Viscount Hereford, and the manor has since been repeatedly transferred from one proprietor to another, without furnishing any particular materials for history. Mr. — Freeman, of Gaines, in the parish of Whitbourn, exchanged it for an estate in the parish of Avenbury, with Mr. Gardiner. A Mr. Gardiner bequeathed it to his nephew, Mr. Godfrey, who sold it to Mr. Purse-house, who bequeathed it to his nephew, Mr. Berry, of Stanford, in Worcestershire, the present proprietor.

* Conventual Leases in Augmentation Office.

† Bibl. Harl. 762.

MUNTRYCHE OR MYNTRIDGE,

Is a second manor included in Stoke-Lacy, and is situated in the north-east part of the parish.

This part of Stoke seems to have been granted after the Norman conquest to Grifin, son of Mariadoc; and to have been included in the following extract from Domesday:—

“ In Plegeliet Hund:—Terra Grifin filii Mariadoc. Idem Grifin tenet Stock: Godric tenuit, et potuit ire quo voluit. Ibi 1 hida geld: et 1 carucata et 6 villarii cum 3 carucatis—et 3 servi. Valuit et valet 25 solid.”

It afterwards gave name to a family holding it, of whom Walter de Muntryche lived in the reign of Henry III. and held this manor by the fifth part of knight's fee, and as of the honour of Webley:—

“ In Muntryche continetur una hida quam Walterus Muntryche tenet de Ricardo de Hampton, per servitium militare, pro quintâ parte feodi militis, et idem Ricardus de honore de Webley de veteri feoffamento.”*

A. D.
1216.

Henry son of William de Muntryche, gave a rent charge out of his manor to the priory of St. Leonard of Pyon, and confirmed the donation of lands given to the said priory, by Roger de la Sale de Stoke, son of Roger; which Roger, the father, bought them of William, the son of William Mawen. These lands were thus mentioned in the deed. “ — Acras in Stoke, de hidâ de Muntryche, &c.” and the services to the lord of the fee, were reserved.†

* Lib. Feod Henry III. Harl. Bibl. 5223.

† MS. Silas Taylor, Bibl. Harl.

Waryn de Muntrich was one of the witnesses to a grant from Hugh de Bles to Catherine de Lacy, prioress of Aconbury, in this county, A. D. 1262.*

It does not appear how long this family continued to hold Muntryche, nor in what manner it was alienated by them. Their name did not occur in the list of Herefordshire gentry, 12th Henry VI. nor is it met with amongst the sheriffs of this county. It afterwards belonged to a branch of the Berrington family, of Cowarne Magna; and in the reign of Elizabeth it was still considered as part of the honour of Webley, and held under the crown, by the fifth part of a knight's fee:—

A. D.
1558.

“Manerium de Muntridge tenetur de dominâ reginâ per quintam partem unius feodi militis, de honore de Webley.”†

16—

The Winstons afterwards had Myntridge by purchase from the Berringtons: one of the former family gave it in dower with his daughter, on her marriage with William Cartwright, of Nottinghamshire, in the seventeenth century, after which it was held by the Stillingfleets, of whom Edward Stillingfleet, died A. D. 1794, leaving issue one daughter, who had the misfortune to be deaf and dumb from her birth, and who married John Cayley, esq. a Yorkshire gentleman, labouring under the same calamities. Mr. Cayley is now proprietor of Myntridge.‡

RODDS,

Another reputed manor, is also situated in this parish, and is called Rodds, or the Upper Manor. It formerly belonged to the Rodd family, of Foxley, &c. and was sold by them to the Hon.

* Reg. Aconbury Priory.

† Bibl. Harl. 762.

‡ See Avenbury Parish.

Robert Price, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, who was also patron of the living. By his son Uvedale Price, esq. now of Foxley, it was exchanged with the late Rev. Thomas Griffiths, for an estate at Byford. At his decease, it came with the advowson of the living, and other estates, to the Rev. John Lilly, the present proprietor.

This parish contains 2000 statute acres, and extends from north to south about one mile, and in the opposite direction about four miles.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Stoke-Lacy was estimated in the ancient taxation at thirteen marks and an half: contributed £.4 as a ninth to Edward I.; was estimated at eleven marks in the valuation of Pope Nicholas; is entered in the *Liber Regis* "as a rectory or vicarage," of the value of £.8 per annum, with a house and eight acres of land: present value about £.250 per annum.

The patronage was formerly held by the Abbot and Convent of Gloucester: they presented A. D. 1390,* and since the dissolution of religious houses, it has had frequent transfers. The Hon. Robt. Price, baron of the exchequer, presented A. D. 1706; John Freeman, esq. 1746; and Thomas Griffiths, clerk, A. D. 1778, he being the patron and incumbent. The whole of the tithes are attached to the living; and the following are the names of the incumbents from the earliest dates at present ascertained.

* Reg. Trefnant.

A. D.

1567 Richard Wilkes.
 1602 Thomas Carwardine.
 1604 John Hanmour.
 1625 James Rawlins.

A. D.

1661 Francis Stedman.
 1690 Francis Barnes.
 1706 Francis Broade.
 1727 Francis Barnes.
 1746 William Griffiths.
 1748 Thomas Griffiths.
 1778 Thomas Griffiths.
 1796 John Lilly.

The church is a small building, having one aisle, a chancel, and low tower with four bells. It is situated on the south side of the turnpike road from Hereford to Bromyard, at the distance of nearly ten miles from the former. The rent of an acre of arable land here (four-pence), was applied towards burning a lamp in the church, in memory of some obit. The church has lately undergone considerable repairs. The church-yard is the most extensive in the county, comprising four statute acres. A neat and commodious parsonage house has also been erected lately, and the whole appearance of the village has been essentially improved through the munificence and liberality of the present rector.

On flat stones within the communion rails are these inscriptions:—

Hic jacet corpus Ricardi Nicholette,* de Hopton Solers, generosi filii Willielmi et Annæ, uxoris ejus qui obiit Jan. 2, A. D. 1626, expletis 16 annis et 8 mensibus ætatis suæ.

George Nicholette, of Hopton Solers, gent. deceased the 16th Dec. A. D. 1623, being of the age of 13 weeks.

Philip Bennett, the younger, died April 18, 1676.

Jane Bennett * * * * *

Elizabeth, wife of James Bennett, died May 10, 1783, aged 78.

* Vide Avenbury Parish.

Several others of this family are buried here with no memorials over them.

On a handsome marble monument within the communion rails:—

Near this place are deposited the remains of the Rev. Thomas Griffith, A. M. late of Ewithington, in this county, and formerly rector of this parish; whose unassuming worth and disinterested benevolence, will long be remembered and esteemed. He died Sept. 15, 1800, aged 76. This monument, in testimony of grateful and sincere affection, is erected by his widow, S. G.

In an adjoining vault are likewise deposited the remains of Sarah, relict of the above Rev. Thomas Griffith, who departed this life, Sept. 13, 1805, aged 89 years. She was the youngest daughter of William Brome, esq. of Ewithington, and last survivor of that ancient family.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

1643.—Margaret Badham.

1643.—Alexander Badham.

1649.—Richard Badham, died April 18.

PARISH OF SUTTON.

SUTTON (including that of St. Michael and St. Nicholas) is bounded on the north by Marden, on the east and south by Witherington, and on the west by Holmer and Pipe, in the Hundred of Grimsworth.

Sutton has long been rendered famous by containing (with Marden)* the site of the palace of the kings of Mercia.† The Romans, however, had, some centuries before, distinguished this spot, by throwing up a strong camp, including about thirty acres, single ditched, and with opposite entrances from the north and south. The church and village are situated in a southern direction from the camp, and thus the parish probably acquired the name of

* Lord Coninsby's Marden.

† Mercia continued a distinct sovereignty from A. D. 586 to 827 or 874.

South-Town, now abbreviated into Sutton. The entrenchments still remain on the left bank of the Lugg, about half a mile north-east from that river, and retain the appellation of Sutton-Walls, from the Roman *Vallum*.

Of the sovereigns of Mercia who resided here, Ethelbald died about the middle of the eighth century, and was succeeded by Offa, who, from his valour and success in enlarging his dominions, has been, as it were, emphatically, styled “A Monarch of Englishmen.”* Offa was fourth in descent from Wibba, who was also a Mercian king, and in whose family had been several British princes.† Some of them even had divine honours paid to them; and Wednesdays and Fridays were said to have been dedicated to them by the Saxons.‡ Offa himself was in so high respect that he married Quindreda (called also Quenred and Eburgh), daughter of Charles the Great of France.§ By Quindreda he had issue one daughter, Alfride, or Elfrida, on whom Nature had lavished her choicest gifts. At this time Ethelbert was King of the East Angles, who inhabited the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridge, adjoining Leicester and Northamptonshires, the eastern frontier of Offa’s comparatively extensive dominions.|| This contiguity gave Offa an opportunity of invading the country of the East Angles, and of attempting to add it by conquest to Mercia. The valour, however, of Ethelbert had hitherto foiled this ambitious project; and peace being established between them, overtures were made

* Harl. MS.

† Mat. West. 275.

‡ Mat. Paris, 126.

§ Charles the Great died A. D. 814, having lived 71 years, and reigned 47: he was 24th king of France from Pharamond, who began to reign A. D. 420.—*De Serre’s Hist. of King’s of France*, f. 64.

|| Mercia was the last and largest principality of the Saxon Heptarchy.

by Ethelbert to receive the fair Elfrida in marriage. The fame of her beauty and accomplishments must have been the great and primary motive to this proposal from a brave and generous prince, whilst the future security of his crown from the powerful attacks of Offa, added the influence of policy to a measure suggested by inclination. On the other hand, Offa had found in Ethelbert those qualities which reflect honour on the highest dignity, and made him, in every respect, worthy of Elfrida as his bride. In short, the proposals were favourably received at the court of Offa, and his palace at Sutton was appointed the place of interview. On this occasion, the mother of Ethelbert is said to have remonstrated with her son, and to have endeavoured to prevail with him not to proceed further than his own frontiers.* But, unable to instil her own apprehensions into the breast of her unsuspecting son, Ethelbert arrived with a splendid retinue at the palace of Offa, and was received with all the demonstrations of welcome, which mirth and hospitality could devise. The perfidious sequel of this history is differently related: but all accounts unfortunately agree in the truth of this enormous treachery, that Ethelbert was murdered, his guards dispersed, and his kingdom seized by Offa. The suggestion of this murder is generally attributed to Quindreda, Offa's queen, who according to Matthew Paris and Matthew of Westminster, is stated to have addressed him to this effect, immediately on the arrival of Ethelbert. "God has this day, delivered your enemy into your hands, whose kingdom you have with so much earnestness desired, and which (he being privily made away with), will come under your power and your successors for ever." The infamous

* Matthew West.

and cruel proposal is said to have been received by Offa with the utmost indignation; he declared "it should be far from him to bring an everlasting reproach on himself and family by so detestable a crime;" and angrily flung himself from her. Offa afterwards dined with Ethelbert, and the remainder of the day was spent with music and great festivity. The queen, however, determined not to recede from her purpose, and ordered a room to be prepared for Ethelbert, richly adorned with silk and tapestry. Near the bed was placed a chair magnificently ornamented with folding drapery, and so ingeniously poised over a deep pit made below, that the unfortunate Ethelbert was precipitated into it with the chair, and immediately smothered by miscreants provided for that purpose.

A. D. 793.* His body was privately buried, by the directions of Grimbert, a familiar of the queen, on the left bank of the Lugg, about half a mile distant from the palace, being the present site of the church of Marden, as noticed in the Collections for that parish. The manner, however, of Ethelbert's death as related above, does not concur with the accounts of other respectable authorities, which suppose him to have been privately beheaded: that part, therefore which relates his having been smothered, is probably erroneous. On this subject William of Malmesbury *de Gestis Regum Anglorum*,† writes thus "Idem (Offa) quum magis sibi dolo æstimaret successurum regem Ethelbertum magnarum Pro-missionum Lenociniis ad se accitum, et intra palatium suum fraudulentis assentationibus delinitum, inopinàte capite spoliari fecit, Regnumque Orientalium Anglorum, quod ille tenuerat, invasit indebitè." Ethelwerd's Chronicle‡ also thus notices it, "ex quo

* William of Malmesbury.

† Lib. 1. Cap. 4.

‡ Lib. 3.

rex Merciorum, Offa, jussu Ethelbyrthi regis amputare caput, &c." The subject also of an ancient shrine as noticed in the first volume, and a passage there quoted from a mass book, with other authorities, all confirm the idea that Ethelbert was beheaded. Leland* thus notices the circumstance under consideration:—

"I cannot perceive that Hereford had any great beginning afore King Offa's time, the which be all likelyhood had a palace at Sutton, about four miles from Hereford, where appear notable ruines of sum auncient and great building, supposed to be the mansion of King Offa, when Kenchester stood, or Hereford was beginning. Marden is about one mile from Sutton, and hard by is a hill, where as men say, Ethelbert was beheaded. At the village now is a fayre church dedicated to him. I think verily he was slain at Sutton in King Offa's house: *Mar den* seems to mean the Martyr's Hill."

Dr. Stukely, in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*,† thus treats the subject:—

"—— and on the Lug are Sutton-Walls (Vallum), another vast Roman camp on a hill overtopping a beautiful vale, the royal mansion of the most potent King Offa, but most notorious for the execrable murder of young King Ethelbert, allured thither under the pretext of courting his daughter, and buried in the adjacent church of Marden, situated in a marsh by the river side: hence his body was carried afterwards to Hereford and enshrined, but the particular place we cannot find: I suppose this martyr's merits were obliterated by the succeeding saint, Cantilupe, the great

* 5 Vol. Leland's Itin. published about 1544.

† 1 Vol. 4 Iter. f. 69, published A. D. 1724 or 5.

miracle monger on this side the kindgom, as his tutor and namesake Thomas Becket was in Kent.”

In the *Worthies of England* it is thus noticed:—“Ethelbert was king of the East Angles, and went to Offa, king of Mercia, to treat of a marriage with his daughter, but Queen Quendred, wife to Offa, more ambitious of her own *unlawful* than her daughter’s *lawful* advancement, practised his death at a village now called *Sutton Wallis*, four miles from Hereford. His corpse was afterwards removed by Milfred (a petit prince of that country), to Hereford, where he obtained the reputation of a saint and martyr. His suffering happened A. D. 793.”

John Hardinge thus celebrated his death in old English verse:—

“The Kinge Alberte, alsoe of good accorde,
Onely on purpose to make concorde
Of East-Land, came to Offa for peace,
Between their lande the warres for to cease,
And his daughter to wedde unto his wife,
For more suretie of love and good accorde:
Whom Queen Eburg of *Merk*,† because of strife
Afore had been between him and her lord,
And for she would not unto the marriage accorde,
Made him to be slain in full privy wise,
Within his bed, afore that he could rise, &c.”

They, who suppose Offa not to have been privy to the murder, represent him as much troubled on the occasion, and that he shut himself up three days in his room, refusing his usual repasts: but the sincerity of his regret will probable be questioned, when it is recollected that he over-ran and subdued the country of the East Angles shortly after.—Returning to his palace, his mind is said to have been perpetually disturbed, unless he was engaged in works

* P. 35.

† Mercia, poet: Licentia.

of piety. Some extraordinary appearances, also, in the vicinity of his palace, are supposed to have contributed to his uneasiness; amongst others, “a light appeared on the spot where Ethelbert was interred, and shone with peculiar lustre in the darkest night.” Matthew of Westminster thus notices this part of the relation in his *Flores Historiæ*, sub anno, 793.—“Sanctus autem Æthelbertus dum inhonestè tumultatus, omnibus latebat incognitus, donec corpus ejus, *celesti lumine declaratum*, a fidelibus inventum, et apud Herefordensum delatum civitatem, nunc sedem episcopalem, miraculis exornat, virtutibus illustrat.” But if this circumstance were to be gravely combated, perhaps it might be urged, that the situation of the spot being amidst low and marshy grounds, a collection of vapours might produce such an appearance without any supernatural agency; and that it is no new nor peculiar property in light, to be most visible to our eyes, when surrounded by the darkest atmosphere. It would, however, be an arduous task indeed, to attempt to reconcile to truth and reason, all the circumstances and relations, which through the credulity of this early age, were converted into miracles. Offa probably found it necessary to exonerate his conscience or his character from the foul imputation of being concerned in the murder, and repairing to Rome, subjected his dominions to the payment of a tribute, called *Rome’s Scot*, or *Peter Pence*, being a penny from every house.* This measure, together with his acquiescence in the conditions detailed in the Collections for Marden, obtained the absolution of the Pope, and consequently re-purified the fame of Offa. The body of Ethelbert was afterwards translated to Hereford cathedral, and he

* This tribute was first given by Inas, King of the West Saxons, A. D. 720.

acquired the reputation of a saint and martyr.—His obit was annually celebrated on the 5th of May, when the monkish verses, as inserted in Vol. I. p. 550, of these Collections, were recited in his praise. They were contained in a mass book, “*secundum usum peculiarem Hereford.*”

In accounting for the motives of Quendreda's conduct in suggesting the murder, some writers suppose that the splendour of Ethelbert's attendants so far exceeded the retinue of Offa, that Quindreda determined to add the means of such grandeur to those already in her power: whilst others affirm, that at first view of Ethelbert, Quindreda became extremely enamoured of his person; and that he, avoiding her embraces, was sacrificed to her resentment and revenge. This last opinion is expressly acknowledged in another part of the mass book, quoted in the preceding Volume, and referred to above.

Whatever may have been the motives and the manner of this murder, the fair Elfrida was never reproached with being privy to it in the smallest degree: her conduct evinced, that her countenance was the faithful index of her mind.—Penetrated with anguish, she is said to have retired to Croiland, and even to have become a nun there:* but as it does not appear that females were admitted in that house, it seems more probable that she might have spent the remainder of her life in the vicinity of that abbey, and at her death was interred in it.

Offa himself survived Ethelbert but three years, and was buried on the bank of the Ouse, near the town of Bedford.—His tomb was afterwards supposed to be washed away and his bones dispersed

* MS. Silas Taylor, Harl. Bibl.

by the swelling of that river: and hence it has also been argued that he was not so ignorant of the murder as some writers would represent him to be.

The death of Ethelbert laid the foundation of the future grandeur of Hereford Cathedral. His body being removed hither and the church dedicated to him, the rich expiatory offerings of Offa, the donations of his successor on the Mercian throne, and the gifts of the multitudes who came to visit the martyr's tomb, were employed in re-building it in an extent and magnificence, which, without this circumstance it might never have attained.

A very curious piece of antiquity, now in possession of the Rev. Mr. Russell, canon of the Cathedral Church of Hereford, &c. is thought to have been intended as a religious commemoration of the death of Ethelbert. It is a portable Roman Catholic shrine, as engraved and described in Vol. I. p. 549, of these Collections.

SUTTON-WALLS contained the residence of the Mercian kings until Egbert, King of Wessex, united all the principalities of the Saxon heptarchy into one kingdom, A. D. 874 or 827. Sutton thus coming into possession of Egbert, came, with the manor of Marden, &c. to William, Duke of Normandy, the conqueror of Harold, and was by him granted to Nigel, the physician to the king, as appears from Domesday:—

A. D.
1066.

1086.

“In Tornelaus Hund: Terra Nigelli medici.—Idem Nigellus tenet Sutune: Leflet tenuit: ibi 2 hida geld: In dominio est 1 carucata et 2 bovarii et 4 bordarii et 2 cottag: cum 1 carucatâ, et 1 francig: cum 1 carucata. Ibi Pratum Bobus, et molendin: qu: tenet Hugo (Asne) de Nigello, reddens 8 solid: et 8 stiches Anguillarum. T. R. E. valuit 60 solid: et post 30 solid: modo 50 solid. Hoc manerium tenuit Hugo, tempore Willielmi.”

“ Idem Nigellus tenet Sutune, Spirites presbyter tenuit: ibi 1 hida geld: terræ erant 2 caruc: in dominio sunt 4 servi et unus bordarius et molend: de 10 solidis et 7 stiches Anguillarum, et pratum bobus tant. Valuit et valet 30 solid.”

Hugo de Lasne also held a part of Sutton:—“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terra Hugonis de Lasne.—Idem Hugo tenet Sudtune: Leflet tenuit: ibi 2 hidæ non geld. Ibi est 1 villarius et 6 bordarii cum 3 carucatis et 1 francigena cum 1 carucatâ.—Valuit et valet 30 solid.”

The first of these quotations refers to Sutton St. Nicholas; the *Pratum Bobus* is now called the Wergins, and forms part of the fertile and extensive tract known by the general name of Lugg Meadows, reaching from Bodenham on the north, to Lugwardine on the south. Henry I. granted free warren in this part of Sutton to Alexander le Seculer, and by the inquisition taken after his death it appeared that he held *in capite* of the king by serjeancy of conducting his treasure, and summoning the barons, four virgates of land, worth per annum 11s. each, &c. &c. He left one daughter, Alice, his heiress, who married Walter de Freene, lord of Moccas, A. D. 1290. The Freenes were an ancient and honourable family, of whom Sir Walter and Sir Hugh were included in the roll of the victorious expedition of Edward I. into Scotland. In the reign also of Edward III. a successor of theirs was summoned to parliament as a baron and peer of the realm. Walter and Alice had warren granted them in Sutton, and their descendant Hugh, who was also lord of Moccas, endowed the church of St. Nicholas with lands, &c.* From him Sutton St. Nicholas, as well as that part described in the last quotation

* Lord Coningsby's Marden.

from Domesday survey, and which is principally situated in the parish of Marden, acquired the general name of Sutton Freene, and the church is denominated in deeds of this date, “*Ecclia Sci Nichi de Sutton Freene.*”*

After the Freenes, one part of Sutton St. Nicholas came into possession of the ancient family of Walwyn. Of these, Fulk Walwain, esq. and Thomas Walwain, his son, gave lands in the reign of Henry VII. to endow a chauntry in this church to pray for the souls of the founder, &c.† The Walwyns will be particularly noticed in the parishes of Lugwardine and Marcle Magna. The male issue of the branch situated at Helyon’s or Helen’s, in the latter parish becoming extinct, the property was divided between two daughters, one of whom married John Shepheard, esq. about A. D. 1700, and thus brought Sutton into his possession. Mr. Shepheard was succeeded by his son Walwyn Shepheard, esq. who dying A. D. 1753, left a son Walwyn Shepheard, esq. who disposed of this property A. D. 1795, to Mr. Thomas Gibbons, a king’s messenger, whose son died abroad in his father’s life time, and the property came to his son Mr. Thomas Gibbons, the present proprietor.

The other part of Sutton St. Nicholas, viz. that more particularly denominated Sutton Freene, came after the Freenes to the ancient family of Lingen, who were originally seated at Lingen, in this county, and had very large possessions. This family were in great repute in the time of Henry III. and, amongst other grants in that reign, John de Lingen had free warren in the usual form,‡ dated December 1256; the original is stated by Dr.

* Coningsby’s MS.

† Blount’s MS.

‡ See Amberley.

Coningsby, in his MS. to have been in possession of Robert Dobyns, of Eastbach, esq. about A. D. 1660. The royalty of fishing and fowling in the king's manor of Marden, was also granted to him. In the following reign of Edward I. John de Lingen was knighted at a great solemnity, previous to his accompanying the king on an expedition to Scotland.* Richard de Lingen was in great power and trust in the reign of Henry IV. A Sir John Lingen married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Burgh, and dying in 1522, was buried with his lady in the church of Aymestrey, near Lingen. He left issue Sir John, who married Eleanor, daughter and heiress of Thomas Myldwater, of Stoke Edith, 4 Henry VIII. and dying A. D. 1530, left issue John, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Englefield 22 Henry VIII. and was succeeded by his son William, who married ——— daughter of ——— Ingram, and left issue Edward, who married Blanch, daughter of Sir Roger Bodenham, and had issue Sir Henry, Roger, and Thomas. Sir Henry married Alice, daughter of Sir Walter Pye, and had two sons and several daughters. Sir Henry was much attached to the cause of Charles I. and eventually was a great sufferer by it. An original portrait of him is preserved in Sutton Freene, now more generally known by the name of the Lower Court, and situated in the parish of Marden: he resided in the mansion of Stoke Edith, and died there A. D. 1661, leaving issue two sons and seven daughters. At the time of his death his property comprised the following estates and manors in this county; the demesnes and manors of Stoke Edith, also those of Sutton Freene, with the mills there called the King's

* Ashmole's Garter.

Mills; also the demesnes and manors of Sutton St. Michael, Lingen, Aymestrey, Connop, and Lye, with 500 acres of wood there; the demesnes and manors of Burghill and Tillington; the manor of Broxwood; and the demesnes and manor of Weston, in the parish of Bredwardine, then in a course of litigation, which terminated against his heir, who established a right to a fee farm rent of £.13 6s. 8d. payable out of the manor of Weston, and paid at this time. Sir Henry had also possessions in the counties of Salop, Warwick, and Essex: his rental amounted to £.1250 per annum, and he gave £.500 to each of his seven surviving daughters. His two sons, Henry and William, died without issue, and the whole of his possessions came to his seven daughters, viz. Elizabeth, Joan, Blanch, Mary, Cecilia, Frances, and Alice. Of these, Frances married John Unett, esq. and thus brought Sutton Freene into that family. He had issue, John and Frances.—John had issue, Henry, who married Lætitia, daughter of — Bailey, esq. of Broadward, in the county of Salop, and had issue, Henry, who married Jane, daughter of Mr. William Lingen, of Sutton, and dying A. D. 1807, was succeeded by his son, Henry Unett, esq. the present proprietor. The Unetts were anciently situated at Ledbury, and Castle Frome: they bear arms—*argent*, three lions heads, *gules*, between a chevron, *ermine*.

SUTTON ST. MICHAEL, being that part of Sutton mentioned in Domesday to have been held by Spirites, the priest, was afterwards included, together with the rectory, in the following grant made by Richard I. to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, towards erecting and endowing the preceptory of Dinmore, which was situated about five miles north-west from Sutton. “Ricardus, Dei gratiâ, Dux Normanie et Aquitanie, Comes Andegavie, &c.

Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, &c. &c. &c. salutem. Sciatis quod fratres hospitalares Jerusalem et omnes res et possessiones eorum sunt in custodiâ et protectione nostrâ. Recipimus etiam in nostra custodia et protectione, fratrem Thomam de Dunemora et fratres suos et omnes res et terras et possessiones eorum et locum eorum de Dunemorâ quem de assensu eorum concessimus predictis fratribus hospitalaribus Jerusalem, cum unâ carucatâ terre sicut eis mensurata fuit per legales milites patrie, tempore patris nostri de Bosco nostro de Mawerthin sicut via assartata est inter boscum nostrum et illam elemosynam nostram usque terram monachorum Leominstri de Hopâ, et in latitudine a predictâ viâ usque Coleweye. Et ideo volumus et firmiter precipimus quod predicti fratres hospitalares Jerusalem et locum suum de Dunemora cum pred: caruc: terre et omnibus pertinentibus suis in bosco et plano, et predictum fratrem Thomam, loci illius fundatorem, et fratres suos et omnes res et terras et possessiones suas, custodiat, protegatis, manuteneatis et defendatis, sicut nostras res dominicas, nullam eis facientes injuriam vel contumeliam aut gravamen, nec ab aliquo fieri permittatis, sed si quis in aliquo forisfecerit, id eis sine dilatione plenarie emendari faciatis. Et precipue de hominibus nostris de Mawerthin pacem eis habere faciatis. Et prohibemus quod non ponantur in placitum de aliquo tenemento quod teneant in dominico suo, nisi coram nobis vel coram capitali justiciario nostro. Teste, B. Cantuarensi.”*

Sutton remained in possession of Dynmore preceptory until the suppression of the latter, after which it was conveyed (35 Hen. VIII.) by the following grant, to Hugh Appare, and Eleanor his wife:—

* Cart: Anti: in Turr: Lond.

“ Rex, omnibus ad quos &c. salutem: Sciatis quod nos pro summa trescentarum trigint: novem librarum, quindecim solidorum et septem denariorum bone et legalis monete nostre Anglie ad manus Thes: nostri curie nostre augmentationis reventionis corone nostre ad usum nostrum per dilectum nobis Hugonem Appare generosum solut: &c. &c. per presentes de gratiâ nostrâ speciali ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris dedimus et concessimus prefato Hugoni Appare, totum illum manerium nostrum de Sutton, in com: nostro Hereford, cum suis juribus membris et pertinent: universis. Ac etiam totam illam rectoriam et ecclesiam nostram de Sutton cum suis juribus et pertin: universis, nuper prioratui sive hospitali Sancti Johannis Jerusalem in Anglia, modo dissoluto dudum spectant: et pert: ac parcell: possessionum et reversionum nuper preceptorie de Dinmore in eod: com: dum existenti, necnon advocationem, donationem, presentationem, liberam dispositionem et jus patronat: vicarie ecclesie paroch: de Sutton, &c. &c.”*

This grant was afterwards purchased by John Lingen before mentioned, and descending to Sir Henry Lingen, formed part of the undivided property which came to his seven daughters, and with them to their husbands, their descendants, &c. viz. the Unetts, Allens, &c. in whom this property is vested at this time.

The Seabornes, an ancient family now extinct, resided during many generations in Sutton, and had property here. They bore arms, barry, wavy of six, *argent* and *azure*, over all a lion rampant, *or*.

* Lord Coningsby's Marden.

Of the meadows denominated *Pratum Bobus* in Domesday survey, and now generally called Lugg Meadows, a part called the Wergins, which contains about 210 acres is situated in Sutton. The right of depasturing on these meadows (through which the river Lugg has its course) belongs to the proprietors of certain adjoining estates after mowing. The method of dividing them annually by lots to the several proprietors, is very ancient, having been established soon after the endowment of Dinmore preceptory by Richard I.; the lots still bearing the names of the proprietors of lands here at that date, viz. The Crown, Walter de Freene (or Richard le Freene), Richard de la Barr, and the Master of Dinmore.

It appears by an original MS. particular of the estate of William Lingen, esq. son of Sir Henry Lingen, knt. that the manor of Sutton St. Michael was worth in his time, in demesnes, chief rents, and leasehold rents, £.216 19s. in possession, and £.4 in reversion: that the manor of Sutton Freene was worth £.53 in possession, and £.250 in reversion, and that the chief rents and leasehold rents were worth £.8 in possession, and £.12 in reversion: and further, that the mills called the King's Mills, and "being three water corn mills and certaine meadows thereunto belonging, sett when corne was at the lowest rate for £.36, formerly sett by Sir Henry Lingen at £.60, now at £50." The same MS. contains also the following remark:—"The fruite that groweth upon the demeasnes of the two mannors of the Suttons, and other lands intermixed, which the Lingens usually kept in theire handes, doth make above one hundred hogsheads of cyder usually; and there are above twenty acres planted by Sir Henry

Lingen within twenty-four yeares last past, a great parte whereof is planted with redstreak.

Near the middle of the Wergin Meadow is a large stone, probably designed at a distant period as a boundary. During the civil wars, it was stated to have been moved in the night to a considerable distance from its original situation; and that twelve yoke of oxen were hardly equal to restore it to the former site. The particular object of this delusion is not ascertained. Blount, in his MS. thus briefly noticed it amongst what he deemed the wonders of Herefordshire:—"At Sutton, in a meadow called the Wergins, a meer stone two tun weight removed A. D. 1642." In his Parochial Collections he again refers to it:—"In the Wergins lies the stone that was so wondrously removed in the last age, and since called the *Devil's Stone*." The authors of the quarto Britannia, have been somewhat more diffuse on the subject; they thus describe it:—"Between Sutton and Hereford, in a common meadow called the Wergins, were placed two large stones for a water-mark; the one erected upright, and the other laid athwart. In the late republican time, about the year 1652, they were removed two hundred and forty paces distant from the place of their former situation, and nobody knew how, which gave occasion to a common opinion, that they were carried thither by the Devil, because it seemed above any human power: for when they were brought back to their places again, one of them required nine yoke of oxen to draw it."*

* Page 936.—Herefordshire.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Sutton St. Nicholas is a rectory valued at ten marks in Pope Nicholas' valuation, A. D. 1296; at £.8 1s. 8d. in the *Liber Regis*, with a house and glebe worth £.2 per annum, and is now of the yearly value of £.160. The patronage has uniformly remained in the lords of the manor: and of these Hugh de Freene endowed this church with one messuage or tenement in Sutton, together with 27 acres of arable land, in Westfield, Middlefield, and Eastfield; also with two acres of meadow ground in the Wergins, and the yearly rent of half a mark, with a right of common on the Wergins. This endowment was for the purpose of maintaining a chaplain to celebrate divine service in a chauntry dedicated to St. Mary in this church; and the further conditions were, that the said chaplain should be presented by the said Hugh, his heirs and assigns; but if they should omit to supply the vacancies as they occurred, the bishop of the diocese for the time being, should have power to present a fit chaplain to officiate in the said church after the expiration of three full weeks: the bishop was also to have power to present if the founder, his heirs or assigns, should be prevented by confinement or any other incident. The deed of endowment which was in possession of Earl Coningsby, and copied by Dr. Coningsby in his Collections, is very long, and minutely details the situation and boundaries of the lands, together with the conditions to be observed by the parties.

A further endowment was also made in the reign of Henry VII. in these words:—"Sciant presentes et futuri quod nos Fulco Wallewen, arm: et Thomas Wallewen filius et heres pred: Fulconis

dedimus, &c. Rogero Yonge, capellano, rectori parochialis ecclie Sci Nichol: de Sutton, omnes illas terras et tenementa nostra, prata past: et pasturas cum omnibus suis pert: scituat: et jac: in Sutton pred: vocat: ibidem *le Chauntrelond*, habend et tenend: &c. ad usum cantarie Beate Marie virginis in eccl: pred: ad orand: pro animabus fundatorum et benefactorum dicte cantarie ac animabus omnium fidelium defunct: de capital: dnis: feodi illius per servicia inde debita et consuet: &c. &c. Hiis testibus, Johanne Lingeyne, milite, &c. &c. Datum apud Sutton pred: vicesimo sexto die anno regni Regis Henrici Septimi post conquestum, vicesimo quarto.”*

These lands were sold at the suppression of religious houses, and termed the Chauntry Lands: but none under this denomination are now to be met with here.

PATRONS.				A. D.	INCUMBENTS.			
Henry de Freene	-	-	-	1284	-	-	-	Walter de Bolesdon.
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	-	_____
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	-	_____
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	-	_____
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	-	_____
John and Frances Shepheard	-	-	-	1702	-	-	-	Richard Witherston.
Edward Rawlins	-	-	-	1738	-	-	-	James Rawlins.
Walwyn Shepheard	-	-	-	1760	-	-	-	William Collins.
Mary Shepheard	-	-	-	1785	-	-	-	Edmund Barry.
Guardians of Thos. Gibbons	-	-	-	1805	-	-	-	Matthew Hill.

The church, as its name imports, is dedicated to St. Nicholas, is situated on the left bank of the river Lugg, and is a small building

* Penes R. Dobyns, gent. and given in Coningsby's MS. Collections.

consisting of a nave, a chancel, and low tower with four bells: a chapel also projects towards the south, in which the service of the chauntry before-mentioned was performed. The *lavacrum* remains under a handsome gothic arch, and near it is a stone seat in the window, semi-circular and plain, and about three feet six inches above the pavement: a step was formerly placed under it but is now removed. A flat stone in the chancel contained an inlaid male effigies in brass; the following inscription remains on a brass plate beneath:—

John, son of Thomas Wallweyn, of Lugwardine, esq. died March 6, 1617.

Over the pulpit was this motto,—“*Sola lux Christus, lucem hinc habeatis: venite, accēdite.*”

(On Flat Stones in the Chancel).

Rev. Richard Witherstone, died Oct. 19, 1738, aged 62.

Rev. Mr. James Rawlins, late rector, died Sept. 18, 1760, aged 54.

William Collins, late rector of this parish, died Jan. 9, 1785.

Charlotte, his wife, Feb. 19, 1769.

John, son of ——— Birt, gent. August 4, 1728, aged 45.

East Wall of Chancel.

Ann, wife of Charles Cooke, clerk, and daughter of James Gomond, gent. died Nov. 15, 1767, aged 63.

In the chapel mentioned above is another stone seat, under the south window, about eighteen inches from the ground, and more than two feet in length; and again, under a pointed arch adjoining, is the *lavacrum* as before. A stone pedestal also projects from the east wall, and perhaps formerly supported an image of the patron, St. Nicholas. Mr. John Seaborne was interred here about A. D. 1640, and the armorial ensigns of the family were suspended above.

Various opinions have been formed on the particular purposes to which stone seats in churches were originally applied. Those mentioned above, seem by their contiguity to the *lavacrum*, to

have been used, perhaps by the priest, in some religious ceremony in which the holy water was introduced.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS.

A. D. 1708.—Mrs. Jane Lingen, one of the co-heiresses of Sir Henry Lingen,	£. s. d.
by will left £.3 6s. 8d. <i>per annum</i> , to be distributed amongst poor house-keepers at the discretion of the minister and churchwardens	3 6 8
1712.—Mrs. Blanch Lingen, also one of the co-heiresses of Sir Henry Lingen, left 20s. <i>per annum</i> , to be distributed as above, amongst five poor persons receiving alms of the parish	1 0 0
Capt. Herring left also the interest of £.2 10s. to be distributed as above ..	0 2 6

The church of Sutton St. Michael anciently belonged (with the manor, &c.) to the preceptory of Dinmore; and that house allowed a yearly stipend of £.4 13s. 4d. to a chaplain, whose duty it was to officiate on two successive Sundays here, and at Wistaston chapel on the third. At the dissolution of religious houses by Hen. VIII. this property was granted to Hugh Appare, and by him to the Lingens, as already recited in the account of the manor. It is now vested in the families of Unett and Allen, who allow a stipend to a curate for the performance of divine service. The building consists of a small nave and chancel; and against the wall of the latter is this inscription:—

S. M.—Elizabethæ Cotton, fæminæ a prudentiæ et pietatis laude instructæ, ex generosâ Symonum de Brightwell, in com: Oxon, familiâ oriundæ, viduæ Georgii Cotton de Warblington in com: Hamp: arm: quæ cum vitâ decumbentis pia parens

consultit, hic morbo correpta, peregrina a suis, proprium perdidit, die secundo Junii anno incarnati verbi, 1643.

Gemina proles, Ricardus et Elizabetha ex pio affectu, &c. &c. D. D. C. C. 1654.

PARISH OF TEDSTON DE LA MERE.

TEDSTON DE LA MERE is bounded by Bromyard on the west and south, and by Whitbourn on the south-east; by Sapey Inferior on the north, and by Tedston-Wafre on the north-east, both in the county of Worcester.

The name of this parish was anciently written *Toddesthorne*, and the addition of *la Mere* was acquired from a family holding it at an early date. The lower part of the parish may be said to approach towards a *mere* or *moor*, but the general description does not warrant a conclusion that the additional name had any connexion with that circumstance. Of the family alluded to, William de la Mare,* lived in the reign of Henry III. and held Tedston by the service of one knight's fee, as of the honour of the Earl of Hereford.†—It is not mentioned in Domesday.

A. D.
1216.

“ In Toddesthorne la Mare duæ hidæ continentur quas Will: de la Mere, tenet de honore comitis Hereford, de veteri feoffamento pro feodo unius militis.”‡

Of this name, there were several families or branches, viz. one in Wiltshire, another in Somersetshire, a third in Herefordshire, and a fourth in Oxfordshire; of the last, one had summons to parliament amongst the barons of the realm, but none of the others.§

1289.

Soon after this date, Robert de Plaicy|| held Tedston: his family appear to have been succeeded here by that of the Wyshams: of

* Richard de la Mare was Sheriff of Herefordshire, 1 Henry VI. 1421.

† This appears to have been a peculiar tenure, and has not before occurred.

‡ Lib. Feod. Henry III. Harl. Bibl. 5223.

§ Dugdale's Baron.

|| Regr. Swinfield.

whom John Wysham had free warren granted in Tedston de la Mere, 2 Edward III. John de Wysham, knt. also presented to the church of Tedstone, A. D. 1351 and 1366.

A. D.
1329.
1351.
1366.

A family of the name of Baggyndon intervened for a short time, probably during the minority of the above John. Of these, Richard de Baggyndon presented to this rectory, A. D. 1349 and 1350.—The incumbent named on the former occasion was John de la Mare. The Baggyndons were an ancient family, of whom Richard de Baggyndon was sheriff of Herefordshire in the same year with Henry de Pembrugge; viz. 43 Henry III. A. D. 1259.

The Wyshams were also an ancient family, of whom John was a knight in the county of Gloucester, at a very early date: he was succeeded by John, who was succeeded by Richard, who was succeeded by Sir Richard, who married a daughter of Richard Lord Talbot, in the reign of Edward III. They had issue, Richard of Woodmanton, who married a daughter of Sir John Agmondisham, knt. and left a son, William, who married a daughter of ——— Corbett, of Shropshire, and had a son, Richard, who resided in this parish, and married a daughter of ——— Butler, of Worcestershire, by whom he had issue, John, of Tedston, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Hopton, of Rockhill, in the county of Salop, and left a son, Thomas, of Tedston, who married Margaret, daughter of Robert Croft, of Kyre, in the county of Worcester, and had issue four sons, 1 George, 2 Anthony, 3 William, and 4 John. Of these, George succeeded to the paternal estate, and marrying Ann, daughter of Anthony Dastin, had issue Francis, his heir, and Margareta. Francis appears to have alienated this property about the middle of the seventeenth century, when Robert Mason was lord of the manor and patron of the church. He died

A. D. 1684, and was succeeded by his son William, who dying A. D. 1693, was succeeded by his son Richard, who died A. D. 1717. After his death the manor and patronage were repeatedly transferred from one purchaser to another: the former belonged lately to Mr. Moore, of Shelsey, in the county of Worcester, who dying A. D. 1805, bequeathed it, with certain estates, to Richard Wight, esq. the present proprietor.

A. D.
1558.

In the reign of Elizabeth the manor was held of the crown, as before, by military service:—"Anno 1 Eliz. manerium de Tedestone de la Mare, tenetur de dominâ reginâ ut comit: Hereford: per servitium militare." The Wysham family bore arms, *sable*, a bend, *argent*, between six martlets of the same.

The soil of Tedston is a red clay: and the natural inequalities of the grounds, and a variety of coppices beautifully interspersed with corn fields and meadows, afford a most agreeable diversity of prospect, particularly when seen from the church. Through this parish also flows the brook from Sapey, remarkable for its finely flavoured trout and its romantic beauties. It is also remarkable for a traditionary account of a miracle which is still implicitly credited by the common people.—According to this account, a mare and her colt having been stolen in the night from a neighbouring farmer, some centuries past, his daughter (with whom the mare was a great favourite), prayed that she, attended by some of the servants in the family, might be enabled to trace the retreat of the thief by the footsteps of the animals stolen. These footsteps were discovered without difficulty until the pursuers reached the brook, but on the opposite side no vestige whatever was discernable. It then occurred to the damsel that the robber might have taken his booty down the rocky channel of the stream, in order to

evade detection:—She had not proceeded far along its bank, before she exclaimed, “ My prayers are heard: for see, here are the marks of their hoofs in the solid rock.” Directed by these supernatural impressions, it is understood, that she and her attendants proceeded and discovered the robber in a most romantic spot called “ the Witchery Hole,” or as some contend, in another spot equally interesting, and called “ the Hoar Stone.” The wild grandeur of the latter spot is perhaps not excelled by the celebrated *Vaucluse** of Petrarch. Many pretended vestiges of the mare and colt are still pointed out in the channel of the brook by the credulous peasantry, and many more have been cut away by the felon chissel to deck the simple mantle-piece of the rustic naturalist.

It appears somewhat singular that a brook thus distinguished by picturesque scenery and legendary wonder, should be devoid, till lately, of any positive name. Yet such has been its fate: sometimes having been termed the Sapey Brook, and sometimes the Tedston Brook.—In the spring however, of 1807, a gentleman well known in the literary world† coming to reside at his rectory in the parish, assigned it a name at once pleasing and appropriate. The following verses from his pen, together with his prefatory remarks on the subject, will not fail to be acceptable to the reader:—“ The circumstances which occasioned the following lines happened just as the author has related them.—Soon after he came to reside at Tedston Delamere, as he wandered along the banks of a stream that flows through the parish, he found its wild and lonely

* A village and fountain in France, twelve miles east of Avignon.

† Rev. Dr. Booker.

features so congenial with his mind, then bleeding under the anguish of affliction, that he lingered near it for some hours, frequently arrested by scenery the most romantic, rural, and pleasing. Pursuing a devious course down a deep glade, called the Dingle, it is sometimes seen falling over a series of cascades, formed of shelving rocks; sometimes chafed in its career by huge and craggy fragments, which have rolled from the hills on either side of it; and sometimes stealing along without noise or apparent motion, between overshadowing alders, through meadows or rather sequestered nooks, which could not have been excelled in the land of Arcadia. 'What is the name of this beautiful stream?' said the author to himself, as he loitered on its banks for nearly two miles. At last, when seated on a fallen tree, pondering on days and joys which were gone to return no more, he beheld an aged peasant approaching, to whom he repeated the inquiry, respecting the name of a brook which had so interested his eye and his feelings: and from the peasant he received the answer mentioned in the poem. The peasant passed on, and the poem flowed from the author's pencil."

LINES

To a beautiful and romantic brook, destitute of any appropriate name, which amidst rocks and woods traverses the parish of Tedston Delamere, and then falls into the Teme.

Thou lovely brook, without a name,
Unchronicled, unknown to fame,
Would Maro's or the Sabine muse,
Thy poet's warm wish not refuse,
Thou shouldst become as proud a stream,
As ere was made a poet's theme.

The alders on thy banks which grow,
The zephyrs which around thee blow,
The woods which o'er thee tow'r sublime;
These in my verse to latest time

Should live. Thy gurgling waters clear
Which now are seen, now disappear,
Where finny tribes delighted play
Through summers' bright and cheerful day,
Should boast renown; and ev'ry flower
That sips the dew or drinks the shower,
On thy romantic margin green,
In fadeless beauty should be seen.

Thy meadows smooth where fountains spring,
The various birds which near thee sing,
Not absent her whose warbling throat,
Charms the still night's ear with her note;
Thy rocks and dark embow'ring dells,
Where pensive meditation dwells—

All, all, immortal honours claim,
Thou lovely brook without a name!

Yet tho' no verse of mine may live,
A name to thee thy bard will give,
Through Tedstone *Delamere's* rich plains,
Where crown'd with hops, Pomona reigns,
Thou musically flow'st along,
In concord with the woodman's song;
Still flowing, grace those plains so fair,
And hence be called, **THE DELAMERE.**

Then shall some wight, in after-time,
Immortalize thee in his rhyme;
And thus, though in far sweeter lay,
Reclining on thy margin say,
On thy rude banks, O stream! once rov'd
A shepherd swain who truly lov'd:
But ah! his fair-one and her charms
Were sever'd from his faithful arms.
—Of treasures such as these bereft,
The scenes of former bliss he left,
His wonted fold too, and his sheep,
And oft near thee would walk and weep;
Or seated in some shady nook,
Would note thy beauties in his book,
And as the peasants near him came,
Would wipe his tears and ask thy name:
“It has no proper name,” they cri'd,
“’Tis pity,” he rejoin'd, and sigh'd.

Then pond'ring on thy banks would go,
 And let thy murmurs sooth his woe—
 No proper name! and yet these fields,
 Where various plenty Nature yields,
 Afford to thee a native sway,
 Thro' scenes where thou must wish to stay—
 Fields, from the *Virgin Mother* fair,
 Entitled Tedstone *Delamere*!
 What tho' thy source be not divine,
 Hence lovely stream, that name be thine!

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Tedston de la Mere is a rectory, valued in the ninth granted to Edward I. A. D. 1286, at seven marks, not including a pension of ten shillings payable to the priory of Great Malvern. The same estimate prevailed in the taxation of Pope Nicholas, A. D. 1294. In the *Liber Regis* it is discharged from the payment of tenths, and estimated at £.6 13s. 4d. per annum, but of the certified clear value of £.46, with 30 acres of glebe, &c. The present annual value is about £.400.

RECTORS.		RECTORS.	
1289	William de la Mare.	1691	George Hay.
—	—	1729	John Hay.
—	—	1739	Richard Wilding.
1349	John de la Mare.	1749	John Landon.
1350	Dominus de Wooton.	1782	Thomas Cox.
—	—	1790	P. G. Tompkins, LL. D.
1631	James Parry.	1805	Luke Booker, LL. D.
1671	Thomas Doleman.		

N. B. The patronage continued with the lords of the manor until the death of Richard Mason, A. D. 1717.

The subsequent presentations were made by Elizabeth Hay, widow, A. D. 1729; Ann Hay, spinster, A. D. 1739; by the same A. D. 1744 (when John Holland, omitted in the preceding list, was instituted); by the same A. D. 1749; by Wakeman Long, esq. A. D. 1782; by Thomas Cox, clerk, and Barbara, his wife, A. D. 1790; and lastly by Richard Blakemere, esq. A. D. 1805.

The church is dedicated to St. James, and is a small building, comprising a nave, chancel, and wooden cupola, with two bells.—The situation of the church and parsonage-house on the declivity of a hill, is highly interesting, and commands very extensive prospects in the counties of Worcester, Stafford, Warwick, and Gloucester. The celebrated hills of Malvern form a leading feature towards the south-east. The church is ancient, and strengthened with buttresses, from the crevices of which, the common nut tree flourishes in abundance: the north side is clothed with ivy, and each lend their aid in producing a solemn and pleasing appearance. Near the south entrance are two prostrate figures, much worn by time and human footsteps: no arms nor inscription remain to point out whom they represent: the ancient cross remains entire in the church-yard; and within the communion rails are the following inscriptions:—

James Parry, A. M. (descended from the ancient family of that name) prebendary of Hereford, and rector of this parish 40 years, died September 23, 1671.

Mary, wife of George Primrose was also interred here, December 25, 1687.

Thomas Doleman, A. M. rector of this parish, died December 4, 1690, aged 39.

Richard Creswell, gent. died April 23, 1643.

Chancel.—South Wall.

Robertus Mason, qui fuit prætorii dominus et hujus ecclesiæ patronus, fatis cessit, April 16, A. D. 1684, ætat. 63.

Et in eodem tumulo depos: reliquiæ Hesteræ uxoris, quæ obiit Sept. 28, 1709, ætat. 83 (leaving five sons and two daughters).

North Wall.

Rev. John Landon, A. M. rector of Nurstead and Ilstead, in Kent, died June 3, 1777,

aged 77.—His religious principles and literary abilities were evident from what he did and wrote in vindication of the religion he professed.

On a Flat Stone in the Nave or Aisle.

Frances Bateman, died May 28, 1708.

Heav'n took her soule; the earth her corpse did seise,

Yet not in fee; she only holds by lease,

With this proviso—when the judge shall call,

Earth shall give up her share, and Heav'n take all.

(On a Brass Plate.)

Dorcas, daughter of John Holland, gent. and Catherine, his wife—

Also German, their son, are interred here.—
1726.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

William Mason, died September 19, 1693, aged 70.

Richard, his son, died 1717, aged 69.

North Wall. (On a Brass Plate.)

Joyce, wife of Thomas Lane, gent. was buried December 21, 1720, aged 42.

Flat Stones.

Sarah, wife of ——— Tyfield, *****

George Lane, April 1663.

——— Lane, September, 1648.

Thomas Colly, April 3, 1686.

PARISH OF THORNBURY.

THORNBURY is bounded on the east by Collington, on the south by Wacton (in Bromyard), on the west by Hatfield, in the hundred of Wolphey, and on the north by Kyre, in the county of Worcester.

This parish contains the two manors of Thornbury and Northwood:—The latter is now corrupted to Netherwood, but probably derives its name from its situation, being one mile *North* from a British camp near the church, which gives also the appellation of *West-ington* to an estate in Grendon-Bishop, situated in that direction.

A. D.
1066.

After the Norman conquest, Thornbury was held by Alured, of Spain, as it is thus mentioned in Domesday:—

“ In Plegeliet Hund: Terra Aluredi de Hispania.—Idem Aluredus tenet Torneberie: Siccuard tenuit et quo volebat ire,

poterat. Ibi sex hidæ geld. In dominio sunt 3 carucatæ, et 4 villarii, et 4 bordarii cum 3 carucatis: Ibi 6 servi et 2 caruc: plus possent esse ibi. T. R. E. valuit 6 lib: et post 100 solid: modo 4 lib: et 10 solid."

" Idem Aluredus tenet 1 Hidam* in eâdem villâ. Leuric et Leuing et Ernui tenuerent pro 3 maneriis. Wasta fuit hæc terra. Ibi est dimid: carucatæ et 2 villarii cum dimid: carucatæ, et 1 caruc: ibi posset esse hæc terra geld. Qui tenuerunt poterant ire quo volebant. Valuit 13 solid: et 4 denar: modo 2 solid."

Thornbury was afterwards held, probably with Northwood, by the Botylers (Butlers), Dukes of Ormond, &c. Of these, Hugh le Botylèr, possessed it in the reign of Henry III.

A. D.
1216.

" In Thornbury continentur sex hidæ, quas Hugo le Botyler tenet de Philippo de Columbers, de honore de Sanwey, pro dimid: feod: unius militis de veteri feoffamento."† Soon after, John le Munigne (Moigne), was lord of both, holding them, " de hæredibus Adye de Botyler," (id) and in the following century they belonged to the Mortimers, of whom Roger, Earl of March, executed A. D. 1331, for intriguing with the queen of Edward II. is said to have been born at Northwood. By an inquisition taken 5 Rich. II. it appears that these possessions remained in the family, being held by Edmund Mortimer, grandson of Roger, he having obtained a reversal of the judgment of confiscation against the said Roger:— " Edmundus de Mortuomari nuper Comes March et Ulster, tenuit die quo obiit de rege in capite; in dominio suo ut de feodo, maner: de Northwood et Thornbury, cum pertinentibus in comi-

1331.

1382.

* Probably Northwood.

† Lib: Feod: Bibl. Harl. 5223.

tatu Hereford: sed per quod servitium ignorant: &c. Rogerus, filius predicti Edmundi est hæres et ætat: 9 annorum.”*

The descent of the Mortimers will be given at length in the Collections for the parish of Wigmore; it is therefore briefly mentioned here that Roger, heir of Edmund, died A. D. 1399, leaving a son Edmund, who succeeded to his father's titles and estates, being the last Earl of March, of the name of Mortimer. He died without issue, 3 Henry VI. after which, Richard, Duke of York, his cousin and heir, had livery of his lands, &c. Richard died A. D. 1460, and was succeeded by his son Edward, who in the following year renewed the claim made by his father to the English crown, and defeating the forces of King Henry, at Mortimer's Cross, in this county, February 24, ascended the throne, 29th June following, with the title of Edward IV.

Northwood, thus coming to the crown, was given by Edward VI. to Edward Duke of Somerset. He was beheaded A. D. 1552, and Northwood was granted to Walter Devereux, Viscount Hereford, and afterwards Earl of Essex. He married Lettice, daughter of Sir Francis Knowles or Knolles, who was related to Queen Elizabeth, and he dying A. D. 1557, was succeeded in his honours and estates by his eldest son, Robert Devereux, whose life affords so striking an instance of the instability of human greatness. The character of this nobleman has been so fully drawn by different writers, that little new information can at this time be expected. His claims however to literary merit do not appear to have generally received the notice which they deserved. As a writer of

* Bibl. Harl. 606.

that day he was logical, clear, and comprehensive; his sentiments were always just and liberal, and they were delivered in polished and energetic language. His "Apologie," was first printed in London, and afterwards in Holland; with proper allowance for the *quaintness* of terms then in use, this work bore evident marks of a strong and well-informed mind. Walpole observes, that it was not choice or private amusement, but the cast of his public life that converted him into an author.* The editors of the *Biographia Britannica* observe, that the elegant perspicuity, the conciseness, the quick, strong reasonings, and the engaging good breeding of his letters, carried great marks of genius; but that his youth gave no promise of parts, and that his father died with a mean opinion of him. They thus proceed in their further account of him:—"The malicious subtleties of an able court were an overmatch for his impetuous spirit; yet he was far from wanting wit, but was so confident of the queen's partiality, that he did not bend to her as his enemies did, who had not the same hold on her tender passions. He trusted to be always able to master her by absenting himself; his enemies embraced those moments to ruin him. It is the *mode* to treat the queen's passion for him as a romance: Voltaire laughs at it, and observes, that when her struggle about him must have been the greatest (*i. e.* his death), she was sixty-eight:—had he been sixty-eight, it is probable she would not have been in love with him."

The following is the account given of him in the *Worthies of England*†:—

* Royal and Noble Authors, Vol. 1. page 315.

† Page 38.

“ Robert Devereux, son of Walter Devereux, Earle of Essex, was born at *Nethwood** in this county (Herefordshire), Nov. 10, 1567, whilst his father, as yet, was onely Viscount of Hereford.— He was such a master-piece of court and camp, and so bright a light therein, that we will observe his morning, forenoon, high-noon, afternoon, and night.

“ His *morning* began at his first coming to court, the gates whereof he entred with four great advantages of *pitie, kindred, favour* and *merit*: *pitie*, on account of his father, so lately dead (to say no more) and generally lamented; *kindred*, by his mother's side, *Lettice Knowles*, nearly allied to the queen; *favour*, being son-in-law to *Leicester*, and so was a favorite's favorite at the first day, though he quickly stood on his *own legs* without *holding*; *merit*, being of a beautiful personage, courteous nature, noble descent, fair (tho' much impaired) fortune.

“ *Forenoon*—When the queen favourably reflected on him, as a grandmother on a grandchild, making him the wanton to her fond and indulgent affection, as by this letter written by her own hand, doth appear:—

“ ESSEX,

“ *Your sudden and undutiful departure from our presence and your place of attendance, you may easily conceive how offensive it is and ought to be unto us. Our great favours bestowed upon you without deserts, hath drawn you thus to neglect and forget your duty: for other construction we cannot make of these your strange actions. Not meaning therefore to tolerate this your disordered part, we gave directions to some of our Privy Council to let you know our express pleasure*

* Thomas Mills in his Catalogue of Honours, page 863.

for your immediate repair hither, which you have not performed as your duty doth bind you, increasing thereby greatly your former offence and undutiful behaviour, in departing in such sort without our privity, having so special an office of attendance and charge near our person :— We do therefore charge and command you forthwith upon the receipt of these our letters, all excuses and delays set apart, to make your present and immediate repair unto us, to understand our further pleasure. Whereof see you fail not, as you will be loth to incur our indignation ; and will answer for the contrary at your uttermost peril.—The 15th of April, 1589.”

“ This letter, angry in the *first* and loving in the *fourth* degree was written to him (sent by Sir Thomas Gorges) on this occasion : The earle, in pursuance of his own martial inclination, secretly left the court to see some service in France. The queen, passionately loving his person, grievously complained of his absence, and often said, ‘ *We shall have this young fellow knock’d on the head as foolish Sidney was, by his own forwardness,*’ and was restless ’till his return.

“ I behold him in his *highnoon*, when he brought victory with him from Cadiz, and was vertical in the esteem of the souldiery, and may be said to awaken the queen’s jealousy by his popularitie. His *afternoon* followed, when he undertook the Irish action, too knotty service for his smooth disposition, being fitter for personal performance, than conduct and managing of martial affairs. And now his enemies work was halfe done, having gotten such a gulf betwixt him and the queen. For, as *Antæus* is said to have recruited strength, when he touched his mother *earth*, so this earle, wrestling with his enemies, suppressed them and supported him-

self by his dayly access to the queen, which, distance now denied him.

“ His *night* approached, when coming over without leave, he was confined to his house by the queen, to reclaim, not ruine him. Hither a miscellaneous crew of sword-men did crowd, tendering him their service, some of one perswasion, some of another; some of all, some of no religion. Their specious pretence was to take evil counsellors from the queen, though it had been happie, if they had been first taken away from the earle. What his company said they would doe, the earle knew; but what would have been done by them, God knows. The earle rising, and missing of expected support from the City of London, quickly sunck in the queen’s final displeasure, A. D. 1600.

“ He was valiant, liberal to scholars and souldiers, nothing distrustful, if not too confident of fidelity in others. Revengefulness was not bred, but put into his disposition. ’Tis hard to say whether such as were his enemies, or such as should be his friends, did him more mischief. When one flattered him to his face for his valour, ‘*No*’ said he, ‘*My sins ever made me a coward.*’ In a word, his failings were neither so foul, nor so many, but that the character of a right worthy man, most justly belongs to his memory.”

The following particulars are taken from various and subsequent accounts of this nobleman’s life :*—

“ Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, was born at Netherwood, November 10, 1567; he succeeded to his title when ten years of age, being left under the protection of Thomas Ratcliffe, Earl of

* Biographia Britan:—Walpole—Athenæ Oxon:—Lloyd’s State Worthies.—Cecil Papers. Shelburn’s Catalogue.—Sir H. Wooton.—Grainger, &c. &c.

Sussex, and William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, the latter being nominated his guardian by his father. In his tender years it is said, that no signs appeared of an extraordinary genius, and one who was long in the service of the family, assures us that his father died with a very cold conceit of him. He took the degree of A. M. at Trinity College, Cambridge, A. D. 1582, under Dr. Whitgift, and soon after retired to his seat at Lampsic, in South Wales, to the privacy of which he was then much attached. In his seventeenth year he made his first appearance at court, and as the son of a most faithful servant of the queen, as the son-in-law of her favourite Leicester, accomplished in his manners and handsome in his person, he grew rapidly in the esteem and favour of Elizabeth. In 1585, he accompanied the Earl of Leicester to Holland, and in reward of his valour displayed at the battle of Zutphen, 1586, he was made a knight banneret in the camp. He was appointed master of the horse, A. D. 1587, general of the horse the following year, and soon after a knight of the garter. Being at this time young, and of an high spirit, his success created in him a degree of *hauteur* or petulance, which was not even restrained towards the queen herself, although she was never suspected of being fond of receiving any thing like controul from her subjects. In disputing her favour with Sir Charles Blount, the latter challenged him, and after a short contest in Marybone Park, wounded him in the knee. The queen, so far from being displeased is said to have sworn with a *round oath*, ‘ that it was fit somebody should take him down, otherwise there would be no ruling him.’ His mind was not insensible to military fame; and A. D. 1589, without the permission or knowledge of the queen, he followed Sir John Norris and Sir Francis Drake, and acted with much spirit in repulsing the

Spanish garrison of Lisbon. On this occasion the queen wrote him a very severe letter (as given in the former account) but on his return she was shortly reconciled. He again incurred her displeasure by marrying the widow of Sir Philip Sydney, but this appears also to have been of short duration, for A. D. 1591, he had the command of 4000 men sent to France to assist Henry IV. The siege of Rouen was the particular operation undertaken by his army; during which he exposed his person very freely, and in the course of a skirmish with a party of the besieged, his brother Walter, then two years younger than the earl, was unfortunately killed. The winter service severely harrassing his troops, and Henry IV. not permitting him to storm the place with the English troops, he challenged the governor of Rouen, M. Villars, to single combat; but this being declined, he grew weary of his employment, as affording no means of acquiring reputation, and left the troops under the command of Sir Roger Williams.

He was afterwards present in the Parliament which began 19th February, 1593; and in 1596, he was joined with the Lord High Admiral Howard, in the command of the famous expedition against Cadiz. In 1597, he was chief of another expedition against Spain, called the Island Voyage, and uniformly conducted himself with great personal gallantry. On his return he was created Earl Marshal of England, and in that high capacity held one (and perhaps more) of those courts of honour, by which differences were decided and duelling prevented, between persons of rank:—In the instance alluded to, Edmund Withepoole, esq. was the aggressor, and Anthony Felton, esq. the person aggrieved. A jury, empannelled by the Earl Marshal, was formed of twenty-four knights or gentlemen, who after hearing the case from each

party, adjudged that Withepoole should acknowledge his conduct to have been unjustifiable, and that Felton was free from disgrace, “since at the time of the assault, he drew his sword, and offered, as a gentleman, to defend his reputation.”* In 1598, he was elected Chancellor of the University of Cambridge: and, having now reached a most distinguished degree of elevation in the capricious scale of public life, the number who wanted his honours and employments closely applied themselves to effect his fall. The first shock, however, which he received, proceeded from his opposing the wishes of the queen to appoint Sir William Knowles (his uncle), to superintend the affairs of Ireland: this opposition he carried to such a length, as to turn with his back towards her Majesty with much contempt; a conduct which so provoked the queen, that she gave him a blow on the head with her hand, and told him to “*go and be hanged.*” Essex, heated by a momentary impulse, so far forgot his gallantry as to put his hand on his sword, and swear revenge. The storm however, was, as usual, soon appeased, and the queen, apparently at least, perfectly reconciled. By the artful manœuvres of his enemies, he was made lord lieutenant of Ireland, March 12, A. D. 1598, much against his own inclination, as the following letter preserved in the Harleian Collections will show:—

“ TO THE QUEEN.

“ *From a mind delighting in sorrow, from spirits wasted with passion, from a heart torn in pieces with grief, care and travail—from a man that hateth himself, and all things else that keep him alive—what service can your Majesty expect, since any service past deserves no more*

* Dallaway's Heraldry—London quarto, 1793.

than banishment and proscription to the cursedest of all islands? It is your rebels pride and succession, must give me leave to ransom myself out of this hateful prison, out of my loathed body, which if it happen so, your Majesty shall have no cause to mislike the fashion of my death, since the course of my life could never please you.

*Happy, he could finish forth his fate,
In some unhaunted desert, most obscure
From all society; from love and hate
Of worldly folk; then should he sleep secure:
Then wake again and yield God ever praise,
Content with hips and haws, and bramble-berries;
In contemplation passing out his days,
And change of holy thoughts to make him merry:
Who when he dies, his tomb may be a bush,
Where harmless robin dwells with gentle thrush.*

Your Majesty's exiled servant, ROBERT ESSEX."

Perpetual crosses and want of success attended him in Ireland, and suddenly an army was raised in England under the Earl of Nottingham, without any openly professed purpose, but in reality through the suggestions of the enemies of Essex, that he meditated an invasion of England, rather than the reduction of the Irish rebels. This and other circumstances induced him to quit his post without leave and return to England. He burst into her Majesty's bedchamber when she was rising, and was received with a mixture of tenderness and severity. The circumstance is thus related by Rowland White, in a letter to Sir Robert Sydney, dated Sept. 29, 1599.*—"On his return out of Ireland, he made all hast

* Sydney's State Papers, as quoted by Mr. Lysons in his "Environs of London" (vol. I, p. 157. quarto, 1792).

up to the presence and soe to the privy chamber, and staid not till he came to the queen's bedchamber, where he found the queen newly up, the hare about her face; he kneeled unto her, kissed her hands and had some private speach with her, which seemed to give him great contentment, for coming from her majestie to goe shift hymself in his chamber, he was pleasant, and thanked God, though he had suffered much trouble and storms abroad, he found a sweet calm at home. Tis much wondered at here that he went so boldly to her Majestie's presence, she not being ready, and he soe full of dirt and mire, that his very face was full of it." This letter mentioned further, that renewing his visit in the afternoon, " he found the queen much changed in that small tyme, for she began to call him to question for his return, and was not satisfied in the manner of his coming away, and leaving all things at so great hazard. She apointed the lords to heare hym, and soe they went to cownsell in the afternoone." Soon after this he was deprived of all his employments except master of the horse, and continued six months in the custody of the lord keeper. Having gained his liberty after this period by an appearance of great humility towards the queen, she was induced to put his professions to the test, by refusing him the grant of the farm of sweet wines.* This disappointment again roused his violent and irritable passions, and led him to various extravagancies; amongst others, being required to attend the council, he refused to comply, and gave out that his enemies sought his life: he kept a watch in his house all night, and summoned his friends for his defence the next morning: he had also before determined to obtain an audience of the queen by

* Birch's Lives, &c. royal folio, London, 1743, f. 52, vol. I.

force—and when Elizabeth sent the lord keeper, the lord chief justice, Sir Francis Knolles, and others to know his grievances, he confined them after a short and ineffectual conference; and then, attended by the Earls of Rutland and Southampton, Lord Sands, Lord Monteagle, and about two hundred gentlemen, he went into the city, where the Earl of Bedford, the Lord Cromwell, and some other gentlemen joined him; but his dependance on the populace failed; and Sir Robert Cecil, prevailing on his brother Lord Burleigh, to go with Sir Gilbert Dethick, king at arms, and proclaim Essex and his adherents, traitors, in the principal streets, the earl found it impossible to return to his house by land, and therefore went in boats to Essex house, which was quickly invested by the Earl of Nottingham with a great force, to whom, after many disputes and some blood-spilling, he and his adherents at last surrendered. Essex was carried that night to the Archbishop of Canterbury's palace at Lambeth, with the Earl of Southampton, and the next day they were sent to the Tower. On the 19th January, they were arraigned before their peers, and after a long trial they were found guilty, and sentence of death pronounced by Lord Buckhurst, who sat as lord high steward. On this melancholy occasion, all that Essex said was, "If her Majesty had pleased, this body of mine had done her better service; however, I shall be glad if it may prove serviceable to her any way."

Being remanded to the Tower, every method was taken to draw from him large and full confessions; and after he was once persuaded that his project was of a treasonable nature, he made a point of conscience, being truly and sincerely pious, to disclose all he knew. By these means his enemies endeavoured "effectually to establish the truth of his plot, to increase the number of its cir-

cumstances, heighten the apparent danger of its consequences, and thereby afford plentiful materials for proclamations, sermons, and declarations," which might remove from the earl all hopes of obtaining that clemency which the queen was well disposed to extend.

At length, the 25th of February was fixed for his execution; but the queen was so very irresolute to the last, that she sent Sir Edward Cary to countermand it; but as Cambden says, "considering afterwards"—(or having had represented to her) "his obstinacy in refusing to ask her pardon, and that his life was inconsistent with her own safety, she again directed that he should die." On the 25th of February, 1601, he was therefore brought forth between Doctors Mountford and Barlow, to a scaffold erected within the court-yard of the Tower: the Earls of Cumberland and Hertford, Viscount Howard of Bindon, Lord Howard of Walden, Lord Darcy of Chiche, and Lord Compton, were present; also some of the Aldermen of London, and Sir Walter Raleigh, who, if we may believe himself, came with an intent to make answer, if any thing should be objected against him by the earl at his death; but others were of opinion that he came to satiate his hatred towards Essex with the sight of his sufferings and blood: for being admonished not to press upon the earl, he withdrew himself and beheld the execution out of the armoury. Essex, as soon as he came upon the scaffold, uncovered his head, and lifting up his eyes to heaven, acknowledged that many and great had been the sins of his youth, for which he fervently entreated pardon. He besought also the queen and her ministers to forgive him this last contagious sin, praying for her long life and prosperous estate, and protesting that he never intended to lay violent hands upon her

person. He prayed God to strengthen his mind against the terrors of death, desiring the standers-by to join with him in a short prayer, which with broken sighs and fervent affection, he presently uttered: then laying himself down, he placed his head upon the block, and having repeated the first verses of the fifty-first Psalm, he said, "In humility and obedience, I prostrate myself to my deserved punishment: Thou, O God, have mercy on thy prostrate servant; into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit." His head was then taken off at the third stroke, but the first took away all apparent sense and motion. "Thus did this brave man, this favorite of his queen, and idol of the people, fall a sacrifice to his want of that dissimulation, that cunning and court policy, by which his enemies were enabled to effect his ruin.—He was a polite scholar and a generous friend to literature."* "His nature was brave and ambitious, and his conversation extremely obliging and affable: but he was not born to be a courtier; for he could neither flatter nor dissemble, but always carried his love and his hatred in his countenance."†

Soon after his death, a rumour respecting a ring belonging to the queen was much talked of: the Earl of Clarendon states it as a loose report, but a foreign writer of great reputation, gives it as an undoubted truth, and that upon the authority of an English minister, who might be well presumed to know what he said, and therefore in the words of that writer, it is reported.—"It will not, I believe, be thought either impertinent or disagreeable to add here, what Prince Maurice had from the mouth of Mr. Carlton, ambassador from England to Holland, who died secretary of state,

* Biographia Britan:

† Birch's Lives, &c. royal folio, London, 1743.

so well known under the name of Lord Dorchester, and who was a man of merit. He said that Queen Elizabeth gave the Earl of Essex a ring, in the height of her passion for him, ordering him to keep it, and that whatever he should commit, she would pardon him, when he should return that pledge. Since that time, the earl's enemies having prevailed on the queen, who besides was exasperated against him for the contempt he shewed her beauty, which through age began to decay,—she caused him to be impeached. When he was condemned she expected that he would send her the ring, and would have granted him pardon according to her promise. The earl, finding himself in the last extremity, applied to Admiral Howard's lady, who was a relation, and desired her by a person whom he could trust, to return the ring into the queen's own hands; but her husband, who was one of the earl's greatest enemies, and to whom she imprudently told the circumstance, would not suffer her to acquit herself of the commission; so that the queen consented to the earl's death, being full of indignation against such a proud and haughty spirit, who chose rather to die, than to implore her mercy.

“ Some time after, the admiral's lady fell sick, and being given over by the physicians, sent word to the queen, that she had something of great consequence to tell her before she died. The queen came to her bed-side, and having ordered all the attendants to withdraw, the admiral's lady returned her, but too late, that ring from the Earl of Essex, desiring to be excused that she did not return it sooner, having been prevented doing it by her husband. The queen retired immediately, being overwhelmed with the utmost grief; she sighed continually for a fortnight following, without taking proper nourishment, lying a-bed entirely dressed, and

getting up a hundred times a night. At last she died with hunger and grief (twenty-five months after the execution of Essex), because she had consented to the death of a lover, who had applied to her for mercy. This melancholy adventure shews, that there are frequent transitions from one passion to another; and that as love often changes to hate; so hate giving sometimes place to pity, brings the mind back again to its first state."

Some writers are not inclined to believe that the queen ever considered Essex in the light of a lover, from the age of the queen at the time when the earl first entered her presence; but they nevertheless observed that there certainly was something of truth, as to the queen's death being hastened by an accident relating to a ring, and by her reflecting on the death of Essex.

Voltaire also ridicules the idea of the queen's having a tender attachment for Essex; but Mr. Walpole in his Catalogue of Noble Authors, leaves little doubt of its having existed; and the reasons are detailed at length in the Biographia Britannica.

Sir Henry Wotton's "Remaines," have the following parallel between the Earl of Essex, and G. Villiers, Duke of Buckingham:—

"The earl, as he grew more attentive to business and matter, so less and less curious of cloathing: insomuch, as I do remember, those about him had a conceit, that possibly sometimes when he went up to the queen, he might scant know what he had on; for this was his manner: his chamber being commonly stived with friends or suitors of one kinde or other; when he gave his legs, arms, and breast to his ordinary servants to button and dress him, with little heed, his head and face to his barbour, his eyes to his letters, and ears to petitioners, and many times all at once, then the gentlemen of his robes throwing a cloak over his shoulders, he would

make a step into his closet, and after a short prayer, he was gone : only in his baths, he was somewhat delicate.

“ For abilities of discourse, or pen, the earl was a very acute and sound speaker when he would intend it ; and for his writings, they are beyond example, especially in his familiar letters and things of delight at court, when he would admit his serious habits, as may be yet seen in his impresses and inventions of entertainment ; and above all, in his dashing piece of Love and Self-Love ; his style was an elegant perspicuity, rich of phrase, but seldom any bold metaphors, and so far from tumor, that it rather wanted a little elevation.

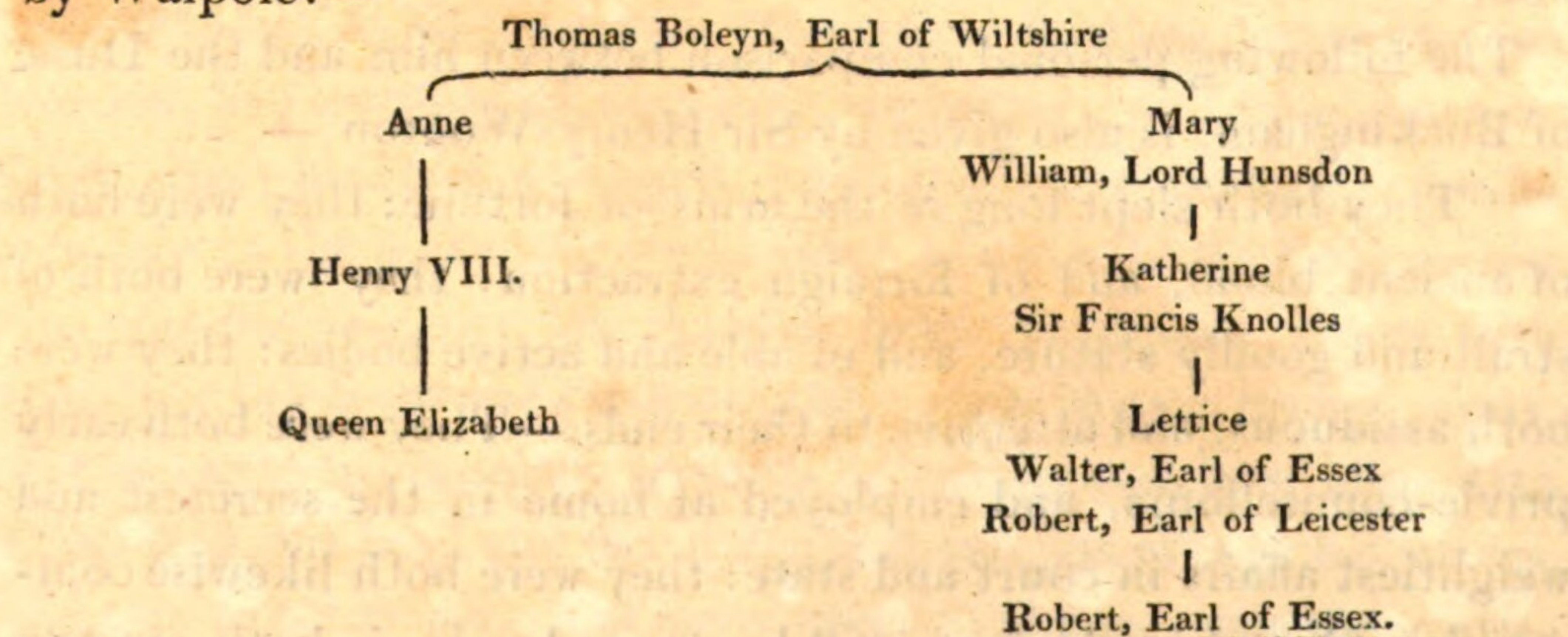
“ For that which the Earl of Essex had received from her Majesty, besides the fees of his offices and the disposition of great summes of money in her armies, was (about the time of his arraignment, when faults use to be aggravated with precedent benefits) valued at three hundred thousand pounds sterling in pure gift for his onely use, by the Earl of Dorset then lord treasurer ; who was a wise man, and a strict computist, and not ill affected towards him.”

The following personal comparison between him and the Duke of Buckingham, is also given by Sir Henry Wootton:—

“ They both slept long in the arms of fortune: they were both of ancient blood, and of forraign extraction: they were both of strait and goodly stature, and of able and active bodies: they were both assiduous, and attentive to their ends.—They were both early privie-counsellours, and employed at home in the secretest and weightiest affairs in court and state: they were both likewise commanders abroad in chief, as well by sea as by land, both masters of the horse at home, both chosen chancellours of the same

university, namely, Cambridge: they were both indubitably strong and high minded men, yet of sweet and accostable nature, almost equally delighting in the press and affluence of dependance and suiters, which are always the burres, and sometimes the briers of favourites."

Park's new edition of the "Royal and Noble Authors," states that the Earl of Essex's death-warrant is now in the possession of the Marquis of Stafford, and a fac-simile of Queen Elizabeth's signature is given, written evidently with a trembling hand. Granger* gives a concise character of him, which is well drawn.— He speaks of a half length portrait at Warwick castle, and a whole length at Longleat, both undoubtedly original. Lord Essex had black hair and a red beard. There were eight engraved portraits of him, published during his life or soon after his death: that given in these Collections, is taken by the obliging permission of Mr. Pitt, of Kyre, from an original portrait found at Northwood, and now in the possession of that gentleman, the present proprietor of the estate. His relation to the queen is thus given by Walpole:—



* Vol. 1. p. 192, octavo.



ROBERT DEVEREUX,
EARL of ESSEX &c. &c. &c.

*From an original Painting now in possession of I. Pitts Esq. of Kyre in the
County of Worcester.*

The following anecdote of the earl is related in Sir Francis Bacon's papers :—" Sir Charles Blount, afterwards Earl of Devonshire, a very comely young man, having distinguished himself at a tilt, her majesty sent him a chess-queen of gold enamelled, which he tied on his arm with a crimson ribband :—Essex perceiving it, said with affected scorn, ' Now I perceive every fool must have a favour.' On this Sir Charles challenged, and fought him in Marybone Park, disarmed and wounded him in the thigh."

A most marked expression of the opinion of the queen's attachment to Essex, is that of Henry IV. of France, to Sir Anthony Mildmay the queen's ambassador, "*Que sa majestè ne laisseroit son cousin d'Essex s'eloigner de son cotillon.*" Sir Anthony reporting this to the queen, she wrote four lines with her own hand to the king, which one may well believe were sharp enough; for he was near striking Sir Anthony, and drove him out of his chamber.

On hearing Essex was ill, she sent him word with tears in her eyes, " that if she might with her honour she would visit him."*

The earl's ruin was in a great measure owing to the little homage he paid to a sovereign, jealous of his person and of her own, and not accustomed to pardon the want of a proper degree of awe and admiration. She once gave him a box on the ear for turning from her with contempt.†

On whatever her favour was founded, it was by no means placed undeservedly: the earl's courage was impetuous and heroic: he had great talents for the state, great affection for literature and protection of learned men, and the greatest zeal for the service and safety of his mistress. At nineteen, he distinguished himself

* Sidney Papers, Vol. II. p. 151.

† Walpole.

at the battle of Zutphen, where Sir Philip Sidney fell: at twenty-two, he undertook as a volunteer, to promote the restoration of Don Antonio to the throne of Portugal, usurped by the queen's black enemy Philip; and by sound of trumpet, challenged the governor of Corunna, or any of equal quality, to single combat. He treated Villars, the governor of Rouen, in the same style, using these words in his letter, "Si vous voulez combattre vous-même à cheval ou à pied, je maintiendrai que le querelle du roi (Henry IV.) est plus just que celle de la ligue; que je suis meilleur que vous; et que mai maitresse est plus belle que la votre." In the expedition to Cadiz, he threw his hat into the sea for joy, that the Lord Admiral consented to attack the Spanish fleet. Few royal favourites are so prodigal of life! The Spaniards attempted to have him poisoned, by placing the infectious matter in the arms of his great chair, which had no effect. His munificence was unbounded: the house of Bacon obtained enormous sums from him! He buried Spenser. He died with devotion—yet undaunted.

On the whole it appears, that if the queen's partiality had not inflated him, he would have made one of the bravest generals, one of the most active statesmen, and the brightest Macænas of that accomplished age.—As an instance of the latter, he gave to the University of Oxford, his share of the library of Osorius, the celebrated bishop of Sylves in Portugal, which his lordship got at the plunder of Faro.* His works were:—

A Memorial, on the apprehension of an invasion from Spain.

A Narrative of the Expedition to Cadiz.

His Apology, addressed to Mr. Anthony Bacon, and re-printed in 1729, under the title of Vindication of the War with Spain.—The authors of the Biog. Britan. commend both—

* Osorius was born A. D. 1500, and wrote *inter alia*, an Exhortation to Queen Elizabeth, urging her to return into the church of Rome.

and of the latter they write, "The earl resolved to deliver his own arguments with all the advantages that his own pathetic eloquence could give them, and it still remains a memorial of his great virtues and admirable abilities."

His other publications were:—

Advice to the Earl of Rutland for his Travels.—8vo. 1633.

Directions for the better Governing and Instructing the Army, in anno 1596.*

Verses in his Trouble—and Meditations—both preserved in the King's Library.

A Letter of great energy, with a Sonnet to the Queen—(printed in the Biog. Brit. p. 1670).

Another Sonnet, concluding thus—

"And if thou should'st by her be now forsaken,

She made thy heart too strong for to be shaken."

Letters to Queen Elizabeth and Lord Howard—in the Bodleian Library.

His darling piece of Love and Self-Love.

The Buzzing Bees Complaint.

Divine Poems—in the Ashmol: Library.

A Precious and Divine Letter to the Earl of Southampton, printed 1643—re-printed in Cogan's Collection of Tracts from Lord Somer's library.

A Letter to the Lord Chamberlain.†

His last Voyage to the Haven of Happiness.

His Speech and Prayer at the time of his Execution were printed at the end of Dr. Barlow's Sermon at Paul's Cross, March 1, A. D. 1601.

Some of his letters in beautiful Latin, to the celebrated Antonio Perez, are published among the Bacon papers: but of all his compositions, the most excellent, and in many respects equal to the performances of the greatest geniuses, is the letter to the queen from Ireland, stating the situation of that country both as a general and a statesman, and concluding with strains of the tenderest eloquence on finding himself so unhappily exposed to the artifices of his enemies during his absence. In another letter from Ireland, he alludes to the same subject in these words—"I provided for this service a breast plate, but not a cuirass"—*i. e.* I am armed on the breast, but not on the back. Many other letters were written by him, in which—the vehement friend—the bold

* Catal. Harl. MSS. p. 703.

† Vide Howard's Collection, p. 232.

injured enemy—the statesman, and the fine gentleman, are conspicuous.—He ceased to be all these by the age of thirty-four.*

In the *Fasti Oxonienses*, it is mentioned that “the earl was incorporated M. A. of Trinity College Cambridge, under Dr. Whitgift :”—he was afterwards elected chancellor of the university, and “was accounted one of the best poets amongst the nobility of England, and a person adorned with singular gifts of nature.”

From a comparison of the several writers who have drawn his character, it appears that in respect to the public, he was truly a patriot, had a great regard for his sovereign's honour, and no less zeal for his country's service: his projects were high, but, excepting the last, very honourable, and the difficulties with which they were embarrassed, seemed rather to invite than to deject him. He was however, too covetous of royal favour, and some say, not respectful enough to the royal person: in private life, he was open, sincere, and generous; learning never approached him ungraced, merit unrewarded, or want without receiving relief.—In his person he is reported to have been tall, but not very well made; his countenance rather reserved; his air more martial than courtly; careless in his dress, and by no means addicted to trifling diversions. He wrote with that facility which is the true mark of genius, with that closeness and perspicuity, which are the happiest fruits of learning, and with that simplicity which is the characteristic of a great mind. Except in affairs of gallantry, his morals were unimpeachable; and he was thoroughly well affected to the protestant religion, of which he had formed the justest idea; despising alike the meanness of superstition, and the folly of infidelity.

* Walpole.

The earl left one son Robert, and two daughters, Frances and Dorothy. After the death of Elizabeth, Robert was restored to his father's honours, with his sisters, by an act of parliament, 1 James. The family property, however, having undergone confiscation by the earl's attainder, Northwood was granted to William Baskerville, of the ancient house of Eardisley, in this county.—It was afterwards sold by Thomas Baskerville to — Read, who resold it to Sir John Vere, from whom it came to Aubrey de Vere, Earl of Oxford, who sold it to the ancient and knightly family of Pytts, of Kyre House, in the county of Worcester. The first Mr. Pytts was succeeded here by his son James, who held it A. D. 1675, and was succeeded by his son Samuel, who was succeeded by his son Edmund, who was succeeded by his son Jonathan Pytts, of Kyre House, esq. the present proprietor.

Northwood is situated one mile north from the church of Thornbury: the old mansion stood in a park of about three hundred acres, which has been enclosed and converted into tillage, &c. since the time it was held by the Devereux family. A large piece of pasture is still called *the Parks*: the soil is a rich clay, and the venerable oaks which still flourish at Northwood, evince how congenial it is to the growth of that timber: it is also equally favourable to the culture of hops. Northwood House was taken down about thirty years since, and a substantial building erected on the site of the former court, the ancient mansion having formed a quadrangle, on the south side of which was an apartment called *Essex Room*, where the earl is supposed to have been born. On the north side was the chapel, having a deep vault under it, which contained several male and female effigies in stone of various sizes.

It seems probable that the family were interred here. The Pollexfens, formerly of Walbrook House, London, are supposed to have been buried in a similar vault under that mansion, and the following curious inscription is said to have been found on a stone near the place:—

Who lies heare? whie don't e ken,

The family of Pollexfen:

Who, bee they living or bee they dead,

Like theirre own house over theirre head,

That whener theirre Saviour comme

They allwaies may bee found at home.*

The other sides were disposed in different apartments: the chimneys were circular, with a kind of lanthorn on the top. The walls were formed of brown stone dug in an adjoining quarry, and were near five feet in thickness. A moat several yards deep, insulated the building, and the access was over a draw bridge on the south: part of the moat still remains, and heads in stone, of human figures, and also of several animals, which were placed as ornaments, particularly round the windows of *Essex Room*, are still preserved at Northwood. Hereford House in the county of Essex, was also the occasional residence of the unfortunate earl: that building still remains, and exhibits a striking instance of the mutability of human grandeur, being converted into a poor-house for the parish of Woodford.†

The camp before mentioned, is situated on a hill of steep access, a few hundred yards east from the church, and has doubtless been a station of the first importance amongst the Britons, and has the usual *criteria* of their construction. The shape is nearly round, but inclining to an oval, and an area of from twenty to thirty

* Gent. Magazine, Oct. 1795.

† Ibid.

statute acres is inclosed within its bank, which is single, and in several parts not less than forty feet high from the bottom of the fosse to the top of the parapet. The entrances were from the south-west and north-east; and amongst other advantages of the situation, it is excellently supplied with water on all sides: the most copious spring is situated on the west, and is called "Lady Well." According to a tradition generally credited, there was formerly a subterraneous passage from the camp to this well, for the purpose of security. A second small spring rises nearer to the parapet in a similar direction; a rivulet flows on the east; a third spring rises on the south, and a fourth called "Kyre-bach"* on the north. A large tract of country, particularly towards Worcestershire, is commanded from these heights, and the Roman appellation of *Vallum* is retained in the modern appellation of *Wall-hills*. Conjectures as to its original purpose, or the most memorable occasion on which it has been made use of, are given in the General Introduction to these Collections.† It has suffered very little alteration from the original form; in addition to the camp itself, several lines of intrenchment were extended in different directions for a considerable distance, the traces of which remain more or less visible in various places. Of these lines, one stretched towards Northwood or Netherwood, and has lately been applied to the purpose of filling up the moat which insulated the house; a second towards Kyre Common on the north-east, and a third towards Collington on the west. The country round is very uneven, and much wooded, so as to give it a forest-like appearance. A considerable tract of pasture ground imperfectly inclosed, in the lower (*i. e.* west) part of the parish, is called the *Leasowes*, and

* Little Kyre.—*Brit.*

† Page 13.

produces great quantities of alders; in name, but in name only, it is calculated to bring to recollection the celebrated seat of the poet Shenstone. The soil of Thornbury is a loamy clay: there is no waste, but several coppices of oak and ash: a brook rising near the camp, after working five corn mills, joins the Froome in the parish of Bromyard.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Thornbury is a rectory, valued in the ancient taxation at twelve marks and 5s.; contributed 44s. to the ninth granted to Edward I.; was estimated at twelve marks in Pope Nicholas's valuation; in the *Liber Regis* at £.5 6s. 8d. per annum with a house and also glebe worth 16s. per annum: present value about £.200 per annum. The patronage has been enjoyed by the lords of the manors of Northwood and Thornbury.

RECTORS.				RECTORS.			
_____	_____			1708	Thomas Burnham.		
_____	Thomas Slater.			1758	_____		
1651	_____			_____	_____		
PATRONS.				A. D.	INCUMBENTS:		
Marg. de Mortimer	-	-	-	1314	-	-	Walter de Pembridge.
The same	-	-	-	1332	.	-	Thos. le — de Morton.
Robert de la Rashe	-	-	-	1340	-	-	John de Bradfield.
William de Thynghull and	}	-	-	1345	-	-	Roger de Atton.
others							
The Bishop of Hereford	-	-	-	1350	-	-	John Coly de Colynton.
Earl of March	-	-	-	1361	-	-	John de Hull.
Richard Duke of York, Lord	}	-	-	1434	-	-	Henry Ryeball.
of Wigmore, &c.							
The same	-	-	-	1444	-	-	Hugh Byshan.
The same	-	-	-	1448	-	-	William Hethe.
_____	-	-	-	_____	-	-	George Hare.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
The Crown - - - -	1508 - -	Ralph Hurleton.
Thomas Baskerville, esq. of } Netherwood - - - -	1578 - -	Humphrey Eaton.
- - - - -	- - - -	- - - - -
- - - - -	1630 - -	Christopher Pritchard.
- - - - -	1641 - -	George Thomas.
- - - - -	1665 - -	George Fincher.
- - - - -	1672 - -	Thomas Evans.
Samuel Pytts, esq. - -	1697 - -	John Stanley.
The same - - - -	1708 - -	Thomas Burnham.
Edmund Pytts, esq. - -	1760 - -	William Hudson.
Jonathan Pytts, esq. - -	1789 - -	Henry Ingles.
The same - - - -	1790 - -	John Gibbons.

The church is a small building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and tower with three bells. Over the north door (now disused), is a handsome Saxon arch, with the zig-zag ornament. In the south wall of the chancel is the *lavacrum*, and on the east, inscriptions as follow :—

March 11th daye anno, 1676.—Here lyes the bodeys of George Baylis and his wife Jane.

A just unspoted matron here do lie :

Who lives as shee did, needs not feare to dy.

He deceased Oct. 3, 1674.

Thomas, son of Thomas Burnham, rector of this parish, by Elizabeth his wife, died Nov. 11, 1734, aged 19.

Margaret, their daughter, died March 28, 1735, aged 12 years.

Thomas Burnham, fifty years rector of this parish, died June 27, 1758, aged 77.

Elizabeth, his wife, died March 23, 1760, aged 78.

On Flat Stones within the Communion Rails.

— wife of George Baylis, 1671.

— wife of Richard Clark, 1683.

Susannah, wife of James Evans * * *

South Wall.

John, son of John and Ann Winton, of Kyerbach, died Oct. 26, 1721, aged 15.

Thos. Edwards, died July 11, 1778, aged 77.

Elizabeth, his wife, died August 6, 1782, aged 66.

North Wall.

Ann, wife of William Burnham, gent. of Westington, in the parish of Grendon Bishop, died Feb. 10, 1767, aged 28.

William, Joseph, and Thomas, their three sons, died in their infancy.

Margaret, wife of John Winton, of the Pyrry, in the parish of Stoke Bliss, died March 5, 1712, aged 35.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

Thomas Burnham, died Dec. 21, 1769.

William Burnham, of Westington, died Feb. 12, 1767.

Joseph Burnham, died Dec. 6, 1769.

Thomas Slater, rector of Thornbury, May 26, 1651.

East Wall of the Church.

Walter Taylor, of Netherwood, gent. died Nov. 4, 1778, aged 55.

Thomas Good, of the Traps, in this parish, Nov. 3, 1763, aged 81.

Thomas Good, of the Stone-house, Jan. 5, 1758, aged 53.

Thomas, son of Thomas and Ann Good. Dec. 12, 1767, aged 24.

Ann, relict of Thomas Good, July 10, 1773, aged 58.—She gave £.50 to the poors' stock.

Flat Stones in the Nave.

George, son of Thomas and Susannah Harwell, died an infant, Sept. 1730.

Ann, wife of Nicholas Edwards, May 1726.

PARISH OF ULLINGSWICK,

OR

HELENSWICK.

ULLINGSWICK, or HELENSWICK, is bounded on the north by Pencomb; on the west by part of Bodenham, on the south by Felton, and on the east by Cowarn Parva.

About A. D. 1000, a house of black nuns was dedicated by Juditha, wife of Walter Earl of Huntingdon, to Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, at a place near the town of Bedford, which from that circumstance acquired the name of *Helen's-stow*, that is Helen's-place, or Market, and is now abbreviated to Enstow. It will be shown hereafter that the advowson of the church of Ullingswick, or Helenswick, formerly belonged to this house; on which account, like Enstow, it assumed the name of the patroness of that foundation, being called *Helen's-wick*, and which is now corrupted to Ullingswick and Hullingswick.

At the Norman conquest, Ullingswick belonged to the church of Hereford, and in the survey of Domesday Book is thus mentioned:—

A. D.
1066.

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terra Ecclæ de Hereford.—In Ullingswic sunt 6 hidæ: ex his 3 hidæ geld: et 3 sunt wastæ. In dominio sunt 3 carucatae et 8 villarii, et 4 bordarii cum 6 carucatis, et dimid: ibi 2 servi et Pars Salinae in Wich. T. R. E. et post et modo val: 100 solid. Unus Miles Episcopi tenet de eo.”

Two parts of Ullingswick afterwards belonged, perhaps by some exchange, to the monks of the house of St. Peter of Gloucester, and a third part to Walter Gifford.

“ Transactio inter Abbatem Sancti Petri Gloces: et Walterum Gifford, in quâ duæ partes totius Terræ de Ullingswick monachis remanent, et tertia pars Waltero, cum advocacione ecclesiæ et principali domicilio.”*

When Hameline was abbot of the above mentioned house, Helias Gifford and Berta his mother, gave “ to God and St. Peter,” eight librates of land in “ Willynswyke,” on condition of his restoring to them a place called *Cronham*, which the father of Helias had given, when he was admitted a monk of that house. Helias, the son, confirmed this gift, and Berta his wife added other lands to the donation.

1267.

“ A. D. 1267, Tempore Hamelini, abbatis, Helias Gifford, jun. et Berta matu ejus dederunt Deo et Sancto Petro 8 libratas terræ in Willynswyke et abbas reddit eis Cronham, quam pater ejus dederat, quando factus fuit monachus: Heliâ filio confirmante.

* Mon. Ang. 114.

Berta, uxor Heliae Gifford dedit quasdam terras in Willynswyke, quas ipse, propriis sumptibus edificaverat.”*

By this gift or exchange, nearly the whole of the lands in Ullingswick, as well as the lordship, became the property of this religious house, and at its dissolution, passed to the dean and chapter of the cathedral of Gloucester, who are the present lords, &c.

The soil of Ullingswick in general, is a stiff clay; and the whole parish is nearly equally divided between arable lands and those which are meadow and pasture: it has very little coppice and no waste. The population has been nearly trebled since the year 1562, when the register begins.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Ullingswick is a rectory, with the chapel of Cowarn Parva annexed: it was estimated at nine marks and an half in the ancient taxation; contributed 69s. 7d. to the ninth granted to Edward I. A. D. 1286; was valued at eight marks only in Pope Nicholas's taxation, A. D. 1296; at £.9 in the *Liber Regis*, together with a house and thirty acres of glebe, and is now of the annual value of £.200. The right of patronage was at one time enjoyed by a convent already mentioned to have been situated at Enstow, in Bedfordshire: the bishops of Hereford, however, disputed their title to it, and Peter Aqua-blanca, held an inquisition, A. D. 1293, to ascertain the right of presentation, and the inquisitors determined it to be vested in the bishop, but it was not until the

* Mon. Ang. 119.

latter end of the following century, that the convent formally gave up their pretensions as appears by the following record:—

“Pateat universis per presentes, quod nos, Elizabetha, permissione divinâ, abbissa de Elnestow, et ejusdem loci conventûs, relaxavimus et omninò pro nobis et successoribus nostris quietum clamavimus Johanni, Dei gratia, Episcopo Hereford: et successoribus suis, totum jus et clameum nostrum quod habemus, habuimus, vel habere poterimus in futurum in advocacione Ecclesiæ de Ullingswick, in comitatu Herefordiensi. Ita quod nos nec successores nostri, nec aliquis nomine nostro in predictâ advocacione aliquid juris vel clamei de cetero exigere vel vindicare poterimus et ab omni accione et demandâ inde sumus exclusi in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium, sigillum nostrum commune, presenti scripto apposuimus his testibus.

RICARDO DE FROME,
NICO: DE ROOKE, &c. &c. &c.”

“Datum apud Elnestow, in pleno capitulo nostri Die Martii prox: post fest: Apostolorum Petri et Pauli, A. D. MCCCXLIX, et anno Regni Regis Edwardi tertii a Conquesto, vicesimo tertio.”*

The patronage has since remained in possession of the successive bishops of Hereford, and the following is a list of the rectors:—

A. D.		A. D.	
1280	John de Homsaye.	1549	Richard Skyppe.
1281	Richard de Kyneburlaye.	1566	James Dew.
1367	Richard de Lodelowe.	—	John Nicholas.
1405	William Benet.	1576	James Drew.
1439	John Clompton <i>alias</i> } Corrysone. }	—	Henry Allen.
1509	John Viall.	1688	Charles Manfield.
—	Robert Asplyn.	1732	William Lane.
1515	John Beale.	1739	Thomas Talbot.
		1789	Thomas Finch.

* Harl. MS.

H h

The church is situated in a pleasant vale, about two miles north-west from the turnpike road leading from Hereford through Bromyard, and at the distance of ten miles from the former. It is a small building, consisting of a nave, a chancel, and wooden cupola with two bells: in the south wall is the *lavacrum* under a pointed arch, and on flat stones within the communion rails, are these inscriptions:—

Margaret Hill.

Ann Hill.

Rev. Thomas Talbot, D. D.* rector of this parish 49 years, died February 18, 1788, aged 80.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Spencer, died August 13, 1750, aged 52.

1603, M. W.

William Bennet

J. P. 1699.

Thomas Hill, deceased May 27, A. D. 1680.

[Another obliterated inscription, dated 1656.]

The following memorials were noticed in this church about fifty years since, but have since been destroyed or obliterated. On the north wall of the church, was a good monument erected to the memory of John Hill, gent. on the back of it his effigies was placed on an altar monument, his wife kneeling at the head of it with her daughter: on scrolls near them these inscriptions:—

Elizabeth, his wife.

Jane, his daughter.

At the feet were his sons kneeling, and distinguished by scrolls thus inscribed:—

Hugh, their eldest son.

Francis, their youngest.

There were also two children in shrouds with their names:—

John, their son.

Joyce, their daughter.

* Dr. Talbot, who was buried within the rails of the altar, was first promoter of that excellent institution, the General Infirmary, Hereford, subscribing the sum of £.500, and laying the first stone of the building.—(Vol. 1. p. 433).

Here lyeth the body of John Hill, gentleman, heir to John Hill, gent. of the Nether Court, who married the eldest daughter, and one of the co-heiresses of Hugh Brook, esq. of Lounge Astone, in the county of Somerset, lyneally descending from the house of the Lord Cobham, &c. he had by her three sons and two daughters. He departed this lyffe the thirde day of February, in the XXXIII. yere of the raigne of owre soveraigne Lady Queen Elizabeth, &c. anno domini, 1590:

Upon whom the Lord have mercy.

In the Chancel, in Capitals.

Here lyeth the body of Thomas Hill, who deceased the 27th of March, anno domini, 1690.

1693.—Margaret Hill.

Ann Hill.

Thomas Nicholas, rector.

Johanna, ejus uxor, 1638.

Natus, 1575.

Ordin: 1599.

Induct: 1606.

Sepult: 1656.

Henry Allen succeeded Thomas Nicholas in this rectory. He lies buried in the Lady's Arbour of the cathedral church of Hereford.

Hic jacet sepultus Hen: Allen, rector de Ullingwick,
Obiit Decemb: 14, anno domini, 1688.

PARISH OF WHITBOURN.

WHITBOURN is bounded on the north-west by Tedston de la Mere, and on the west by Bromyard; on the south by Suckley, and on the east by Knightwick, both in the county of Worcester.

Whitbourn belonged at an early date to the see of Hereford, and has continued in possession of the successive bishops to the present time. Of these bishops, several had free warren granted them in Whitbourne. They had also a palace here built of stone, and situated near the church in a south-east direction: it was built in a pleasant park, part of which, a beautiful segment of an amphitheatre, is supposed to have been a vineyard, and its situation appears highly favourable to such a purpose. The grounds

still retain the name of *the Park*, but the whole were inclosed and converted to tillage, A. D. 1620. The palace was a favourite residence of several bishops, and was defended by a deep moat round it (part of which now remains), with a drawbridge, &c. Within the park was a Roman intrenchment,* and divided from it by a meadow and valley, were the lines of a circular British camp,† but no vestiges remain of either. The latter perhaps formed, with Thornbury, &c. a chain of entrenchments which extended north-west from *Brangonium* (Worcester), towards the country of the Ordovices,‡ and were successively defended by Caractacus, who is supposed to have kept the Romans in check for a considerable time in these parts, after they had taken Brangonium.

Whitbourn has also been the seat of hostilities at a more modern period. During the contest between Charles I. and the parliament, the bishop's palace was surprised by Colonel John Birch, an active officer in the service of the latter. He resided here some time and was governor of the city of Hereford, after it was surprised by the parliament forces.

The manor was anciently divided into “tenentes per scutagium; tenentes per socagium; tenentes customarii, et tenentes dominicales.” Of the first class, “Willielmus de la Walle, tenuit unam virgatam terræ per militiam, et debuit sectam curie de Hereford ubi assignatus fuerit, et respond: de scutagio ad cameram episcopi apud Bromyard. Item debuit homagium, herietum, relevium, et wardam.”§ The tenants by socage paid their rents quarterly, without other duty. The customary tenants paid some rent, and

* MSS. Silas Taylor, Bibl. Harl.

† See Vol. I. p. 9, of these Collections.

† Ibid.

§ Liber Niger, Hereford.

also performed certain days' work for their lord, from Michaelmas to the gule of August. For eight-yard land under this tenure, the tenants were bound "arare octo acras terre et seminare proprio frumento et harriare, que vocatur *la Rede*. Debent etiam arare 16 acras terre in Quadragesimâ, et ipsam propriis avenis seminare, et quælibet virgata terre habebit pro semine avene quatuor summagia de bustâ (*i. e.* four seams of brush wood), et pro araturâ tam frumenti quam avene, debet eis allocari pro quolibet acrà tres denarios."*

Certain lands in this parish which were escheated by felony, were granted by Bishop Foliot, about A. D. 1230, to Walter Clement, his heirs and assigns, at the rent of 3s. 4d. per annum.† In the year 1502, Bishop Mayew leased the manor to William Nott, for twenty-nine years, at the rent of £.10 10s. 6d. legal money of England, to be paid in even portions on the feasts of St. Michael and the Annunciation.

In the reign of Hen. VIII. a dispute arose respecting a newly erected mill at Whitborn, which occasioned the following mandate from that king to the miller:—"We grete you well and lett you witt, that complaint is made unto our counsaillours and commissioners in our Marches of Wales, by William Gardener, of Whitborn, and fermer of the mylne belonging to the right rev. father in God, our right trusty and well beloved Bishop of Hereford, howe ye have made a mylne upon your ground there, and retorned the corse of the water to your mylne, and thereby the right corse thereof is broken, and no water comying to the mylne of the said William, as it hath been used and accustomed, contrary to our

* Liber Niger, Hereford.

† Bishops' Registers.

lawes, right, and conscience. We therefore will and charge you, to suffre the said water to goe to his right corse, as of olde tyme it hath been used to goe, or ellse that you personally appere before our sayde commissioners, the fourth day next ensuing, to shew cause resonable why ye shoulde not so do.—Conforming hereunto upon peyne of £.20. Geven under our signett with our said commissioners, at our monastery of Shrewsbury, the 27th daie of Januarie, in the twelfth year of our raigne.”*

“ Att which daie bothe the parties appered at Shrewsbury byfore the king’s commissioners, by whom it is ordred by their own consent, that they shall stand to the order of the lord’s court at the nexte greate lete ther to be holdin. And a letter to the steward of Whitborn, and to the surveyor ther, with this byll and answer theryn closed, desiring them to provide and see that the homagyers of the saide courte may make enquiry, and thereupon they see justice equally mynystered without delay. And if for obstinacy of the deffendant they cannot so do, then to put the said deffendant under sufficient sureties of apparence, the fourthe day after the said court, and to certify and send the booke again by the playntiff.”†

The result is not given, but the submission of the defendant probably terminated the proceedings.

Leland thus briefly notices Whitbourn in his Itinerary,‡—
“ Whitburn seven miles from Worcester: it is the very extreme part of Herefordshire, on the right bank of Teme river.” Mr. Gough, in his edition of Camden’s Britannia,§ also makes this

* Bishops’ Registers.

‡ Vol. V. f. 56.

† Bishops’ Registers.

§ Vol. II f. 453.

mention of it—"Whitburn belonged to the Bishop of Hereford, who had here a palace or mansion-house, in the tenure of Col. John Birch, A. D. 1675."

Dr. Bisse, who died A. D. 1721, was the last bishop who made Whitbourn his occasional residence. Dr. Egerton kept it some time as a farm in his own occupation, and before his death, leased it to his son, the late Bishop of Durham, for twenty-one years, renewable every seven. The remainder of this lease was purchased by Richard Chambers, clerk, late rector of Cradley, in this county. He obtained from Lord James Beauclerk, a lease for three lives, and was succeeded in the occupation by his son Richard. He was high sheriff of this county A. D. 1793, and dying A. D. 1809, was succeeded by his son Richard Chambers, esq. the present lessee. The greater part of the house has been lately built with brick; it stands on the site of the bishop's palace, a loft of which, now remaining, is still called *Birch's Hole*, it being supposed that Colonel Birch concealed himself there, from the search of the royalists.

The parish contains near three thousand acres, of which about four hundred are employed in the cultivation of hops only. The soil is in general a deep clay, and the timber principally consists of oak, ash, and elm. The river Team entering it from Clifton, runs into Knightwick, both in Worcestershire. The turnpike road from Bromyard to Worcester passes it in length about two miles. The population has been doubled within the last hundred years. A principal estate and mansion house, called Gaines, has belonged to a branch of the Freeman family during several generations: and they have a vault on the north side of the chancel.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Whitbourn is a rectory, in the patronage of the bishops of Hereford : was valued at nine marks in the ancient taxation ; contributed £.3 18s. 4d. as the ninth to Edward I. A. D. 1286, was also estimated at nine marks in the valuation of Pope Nicholas, and at £.14 14s. 9½d. in the *Liber Regis*, with glebe worth £.1 9s. 6d. per annum—present value about £.450 per annum. The parsonage house adjoins the church-yard on the east, and was handsomely re-built with brick by Mr. Luke Morgan, late rector.

A. D.	RECTORS.	A. D.	RECTORS.
1278	Walter de la Burcote.	1543	Richard Thurkhyll.
1306	Hamon de Sandwico.	1561	Walter Bedell.
1329	Richard Sedenhale.	—	John Coke.
1373	Richard de Walford.	1580	Francis Jones.
1373	Richard de Wormbridge.	1675	William Johnson.
1393	John ap Howel.	1714	William Floyer.
1400	John Hampton.	1752	Robert Gascoigne.
1428	John Hampton.	1753	Luke Morgan.
1476	Thomas Cooke.	1777	Hugh Morgan.
1479	John Taylor.	1779	Charles Morgan.
1517	Robert Whitley.	1789	John Gibbons.
—	William Gwilym.	1790	Henry Ingles.
—	William Hulle.	1806	Henry Ingles.

The church is dedicated to St. John Baptist, and is situated half a mile from the turnpike road, at the distance of five miles from Bromyard. It is an ancient and handsome building, consisting of a large nave, a chancel and tower with battlements and pinna-

cles, and six bells. A cupola or lanthorn of glass rises from the roof of the chancel, and a small bell is suspended within it. The east window of the chancel is large, and on each side a nich and pedestal have been excavated from the wall, and probably designed and used for some sacred effigies. A stone stair case formerly leading to the rood loft, remains in the north wall of the chancel, and on the pavement, in the 17th century,* was an altar monument (then in decay), supporting a female effigies of the Scory family, of whom John Scory was bishop of this diocese, and dying, was interred here, A. D. 1584. The arms of Scory were repeated on different parts of the tomb, viz. a chevron crenelle, between three pelican's heads erased. On a tablet were also these lines:—

Her corps now lies in chest,
Whose soul in heaven now lives,
Where she enjoys that rest,
Which God to his saints gives.
Death! she did not fear
The terror of thy dart,
And that did well appear
When thou didst pierce her heart.
For in Christ she did trust,
That he would her restore
Again out of the dust,
To live for evermore.

The arms also of Francis Godwin, bishop of Hereford, from A. D. 1617 to 1633, viz. *or*, two lions passant, *sable*, a canton of the second with three bezants, impaled with those of the see, were also painted on the walls of the church, and underneath, this enigmatical inscription,

WIN GOD-WIN ALL.

* Harl. MS. Silas Taylor.

In a window were also these arms, *argent*, a chevron, *gules*, between three holly leaves, proper; and above was written, *Richard Worbrig*. None of these memorials remain at present, but the following inscriptions are met with:—

On Flat Stones within the Communion Rails.

Arms.—A chevron between 3 arrows.

Ann, daughter of William Floyer, rector of Whitborne, died July 8, 1727.

Thomas Bach, died May 2, 1646.

Arms.—*Azure*, 3 lozenges, *argent*.

Mary, daughter of Ballingham Freeman, of Gaines, by Elizabeth, his wife, died June 29, 1732, aged 44.

Thomas Bach, died 1632, aged 76.

Samuel Birch, of Whitborne (second son of Colonel John Birch, of Garnston, in this county), died June 19, 1704. He first married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Peter Leycester, of Tably, in the county of Chester, bart. (and which Elizabeth is also here interred), and secondly, Bridget, daughter of Timothy Tyrrell, late of Shotover, in the county of Oxford, knight, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of the most reverend and learned James Usher, Lord Bishop of Armagh, and Primate of all Ireland: which Bridget caused this stone to be laid in memory of her deceased husband.

Chancel-Wall—(On a Brass Plate in a Frame of White Marble).

William Floyer, A. M. late rector of this church, and prebendary of Hereford, died August 10, 1752, aged 78. This memorial was erected by his widow.

Chancel-Wall—(On White Marble).

William Johnson, S. T. P. canon of Hereford, and Archdeacon, also twenty years rector of Whitbourn, died February 2, 1697, aged 54.

Ballingham Freeman, of Gains, died June 6, 1689, aged 43 years.

Elizabeth, his wife, who survived him 40 years, died Sept. 4, 1729, aged 69.

This memorial was erected by John, his son and heir.

Abigail, wife of John Freeman, esq. died December 24, 1762, aged 61.

Deborah, daughter of John Freeman, of Bristol, by Abigail his wife, daughter of John Freeman, of Gaines, esq. died an infant, Oct. 3, 1760.

John Freeman, of Gains, esq. died Aug. 30, 1764, aged 75.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

William, son of John Freeman, of Gains, esq. by Abigail his wife, died Sept. 13, 1743, aged two years and near four months.

Peregrine Smith, late secretary to Philip, Lord Bishop of Hereford, died August 12, 1719, aged 22.

Catherine, wife of Richard Langford, clerk, died June 3, 1706, aged 50.

Elizabeth, wife of Richard Langford, clerk, died Feb. 10, 1708-9, aged 22.

John, their son, died June 24, 1708.

On Flat Stones in the Nave.

Humphrey Wood, of Poswick, gent. died Oct. 31, 1785, aged 70.

Martha, wife of John Bickerton, gent. died May 30, 1764, aged 52.

John Bickerton, Nov. 18, 1787, aged 65.

Margaret, relict of William Barnes, of Longland, died June 15, 1709, aged 58.

Margaret, daughter of the above, died Nov. 26, 1713, aged 26.

Margaret, wife of Joseph Summers, of Longland, Oct. 14, 1762, aged 57.

Ann, daughter of Caleb Phillpots, by Margaret his wife, died an infant, July 3, 1765.

Daniel Collins, died February, 1763.

John, son of Joseph Summers, of Longland, by Margaret his wife, August 8, 1763, aged 21.

Joseph Summers, died May 29, 1771.

Caleb Phillpots, June 13, 1769, aged 34.

Mary, his daughter, by Margaret, his wife, died an infant, April 20, 1767.

James, son of Thomas Caswell, by Margaret his wife, died an infant, Feb. 6, 1777.

Mary, daughter of William Wood, April 23, 1771, aged 20.

William Wood, sen. died January 1, 1788, aged 65.

Also three of his sons, viz.

John, died Feb. 7, 1778, aged 24.

William, died March 8, 1783, aged 37.

Joseph, died Dec. 1, 1788, aged 27.

BENEFACTORS TO THE POOR.

	£.	s.	d.
Samuel Fidoe, by will	5	0	0
Elizabeth Holder, ditto	5	0	0
Thomas Smith, ditto	5	0	0
John Coke, rector, (the interest to be distributed on St. John the Evangelist's day)	20	0	0
John Browning, yeoman, by will	5	0	0
John Arden, of Gains, by ditto	7	0	0
William Barnesham, ditto	5	0	0
George Unett, ditto	5	0	0
Sarah, wife of William Johnson	5	0	0
John Collins, of Smæths (interest at Christmas of)	12	0	0
Margaret Barnes	7	0	0
Others at different times	10	0	0

PARISH OF WITHINGTON.

WITHINGTON is bounded on the north by Amberley, and on the west by the river Lugg, dividing it from Holmer, in the hundred of Grimsworth; on the south-west by Lugwardine, and on the east by West Hide, both in the hundred of Radlow.

A. D.
1066.

Withington belonged before the Norman conquest to the church of Hereford, amongst the possessions of which, it is thus noticed in Domesday:—

1086

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terræ Ecclæ de Hereford.—In Widingtune sunt 4 hidæ geld: in dominio est 1 carucata, et 4 villarii et 2 bordarii cum 3 carucatis. Ibi 2 acræ prati et molendinum de 2 solidis. De isto manerio tenent 3 clerici 4 hidas et habent in dominio 3 carucatas et 6 vill: et 4 bord: cum 6 car: et 1 servus et 2 ancill: et 7 acr: prati. De eodem manerio tenent moniales de Hereford, 2 hidas et habent ibi 1 car: et 3 vill: cum 2 car: et dimid: et 14 acr: prati. Inter totum valebat et valuit semper 6 lib: et 5 solid.”

“ In Prestetune* sunt 4 hidæ geld: una quinta et dimid: est wasta. Duo canonici tenuerunt T. R. E. et postea, unus clericus et unus miles. In dominio sunt 4 carucatæ et 5 villarii cum 4 car: et dimid. Ibi 1 ancilla et 20 acræ prati. T. R. E. valuit 60 solid: modo 5 solid: minus.”

This parish includes the several manors or estates of Withington, Church-Withington, Withington parva, Ewithington, Nunnington, Preston-Wynne, Thinghill magna, and Thinghill parva. Of these, the six first continue in the possession of the church of Hereford; Withington forming part of the revenue annexed to the deanery, and the others (with Pratum majus et Pratum minus), constituting so many prebends, which bear their respective names.

* Preston, a chapelry in this parish.

"An Account of the Possessions of the Dean and Chapter, taken by Virtue of a Commission out of the Court of Chancery, from Records of the Offices of First Fruits and Tenths.—January 30, 26th Hen. VIII. (A. D. 1535) thus estimated these Estates, &c. :—

	£.	s.	d.
" The manor of Withington (Magna), is worth by the year, and set at rent at ..	1	10	0
" The prebend of Church Withington hath in rents of farms, to the said prebend belonging, and in petty commons	15	0	0
" The prebend of Little Withington hath in rents and petty commons	3	0	4
" The prebend of Ewithington hath in rents, as well of free tenants as of other lands in the manor there, as also in petty commons of wheat and oats as before; so it is let to farm to William Brome, by indenture, at	11	6	8
" The prebend of Nonnington hath in rents, as well of free as customary tenants there	5	0	0
" Rents of demesne lands there yearly	5	6	8
" Petty commons £.1 10s. Perquisites, &c. 3s. 4d.	1	13	4
" The prebend of Pratum majus hath in rents and petty commons	2	1	8
" The prebend of Pratum minus hath in rents and petty commons	1	19	0½
" The prebend of Preston hath in rents of divers free and customary tenants, and in petty commons	10	4	7½
" Also, the chapel of Preston is worth clearly by the year, in tythes to the said chapel belonging	9	0	0"

These manors or estates have been successively leased out for lives, or terms of years, by the respective prebendaries. The principal lessees, of late years, have been the families of Philips, of Church-Withington; the Bromes and Griffiths, of Ewithington; the Sandfords, of Nonnington; the Apperleys, of Withington parva, and the Lanes, of Preston. Of the first of these families, was Mr. John Philips, the author of *The Splendid Shilling*, *Blenheim*, and the celebrated English Georgic, entitled *Cider*, first published A. D. 1706, and of which a new edition appeared A. D. 1791, illustrated with notes provincial, historical, and classical, by the Rev. Charles Dunster, A. M. late rector of Stoke Edith, and Mordiford, in this county, and now of Petworth and Tillington, in Sussex: a gentleman who has favoured the world with se-

veral other productions of much literary estimation.* The great grandfather of Mr. John Philips, was an eminent clothier at Ledbury; his grandfather was a canon-residentiary of the cathedral church of Hereford, and vicar of Lugwardine, where his father, Stephen Philips, was born, A. D. 1638. He was minister of Bampton, in Oxfordshire, and archdeacon of Salop during many years. The author of *Cider* was born A. D. 1676, and afterwards lived in habits of intimacy with many of the learned men of his time. He received his early education at Winchester, from whence he was removed to Christ Church College, Oxford, where he contracted a particular friendship with Mr. John Mostyn, son of Sir Roger, of Mostyn, in Flintshire, (to whom he dedicated the first book of his poem), and with Mr. John Smith, the author of *Phædra and Hippolitus*. The works of Milton were his particular delight, but Chaucer and Spencer shared also his attentions. Of the Greek and Latin poets, Virgil and Homer were his favourites, and the frequent imitations he found of these authors, in *Paradise Lost*, corresponding exactly with his own bias, his passion for Milton became the more confirmed: it was even said, that there was not a single allusion in that work, drawn from the thoughts and expressions of Homer and Virgil, which he could not immediately refer to. Hence he perceived what life and grace their sentiments add to English poetry; he discovered how much their images raised its spirit, and what weight and beauty their works, when translated, gave to its language. His writings afford the best proof how happily he converted these circumstances to the improvement of his own talent; and in the new edition of *Cider* by

* Translation of *The Frogs*, of Aristophanes, &c. &c. &c.



JOHN PHILLIPS,
AUTHOR OF CYDER, THE SPLENDID SHILLING,
BLENHEIM &c.

*From an original Painting in possession of the Rev.^d M^r Lilly, by whom this
Engraving is added to the second Volume of these Collections.*

Mr. Dunster, a particular attention has been paid, to show how frequently and how successfully, he introduced or imitated in his own work, the beauties of his favourite authors.

The Splendid Shilling, which was his first production, probably recommended him to Mr. Harley and Mr. St. John, then in office, as well qualified to do justice to his country, on the subject of the Duke of Marlborough's celebrated victory. *Blenheim* was published A. D. 1705, and *Cider* in the following year. His next design was that of writing a poem on the Resurrection and the Day of Judgment, but an asthmatical complaint, to which he had been long subject, prevented its execution, by terminating his life on the 15th February, 1708, in the thirty-second year of his age.

The constitution of Philips was always delicate and tender, his disposition mild and amiable: the quiet enjoyment of his muse, in the company of a few select friends, was his principal delight: he had, however, a relish for the study of history and antiquities, and was no mean proficient in botany. An original painting of him is now in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Lilly, who has honoured this work with an engraving from it, at his own expense.

Philips was interred in the north aisle of Hereford Cathedral, where, on a flat stone over him is this inscription:—

Johannes Philips,
Obiit 15 die Feb. anno { domini, 1708,
 { ætatis suæ 32,
 Cujus
Ossa si requiras, hanc urnam inspice,
Si ingenium necias, ipsius opera consule,
Si tumulum desideras, Templum adi West-
monasteriense,

Qualis quantusque vir fuerit
Dicat elegans illa et præclara,
Quæ cenotaphium ibi decorat
Inscriptio.
Quam interim erga cognatos, pius et offi-
ciosus, testetur hoc Saxum,
A Mariâ Philips, matre ipsius delecti filii
memoriæ, non sine lacrymis, dicatum.

The monument alluded to in the above inscription, was erected by Sir Simon, afterwards Lord Harcourt, and lord chancellor of

England, against the east wall of the south aisle, or Poets' Corner, in Westminster Abbey, next to his favourite Chaucer: above is a neat bust in white marble, with this motto on a scroll above, with appropriate ornaments,

"Honos erit huic quoque pomo."

On a tablet below is this epitaph, written by Dr. Friend:—

Herefordiæ conduntur ossa,
Hoc in delubro statuitur imago,
Britanniam omnem pervagatur fama
Johannis Philips;
Qui viris bonis doctisque charus,
Immortale suum ingenium,
Eruditione multiplici excultum,
Miro animi candore
Eximiâ morum simplicitate,
Honestavit.

—

Literarum amœniorum sitim
Quam *Wintoniæ* puer sentire cæperat,
Inter ædis Christi alumnos jugiter explevit:
In illo musarum domicilio,
Præclaris æmulatorum studiis excitatus
Optimis scribendi magistris, semper intentus,
Carmina sermone patrio composuit
A Græcis, Latinisque Fontibus feliciter
deducta,
Atticis Romanisque auribus omnino digna;
Versuum quippe harmoniam
Rythmo didicerat,
Antiquo illo, libero, multiformi
Ad res ipsas apto prorsus et attemperato,
Non numeris in eundem fire orbem redeun-
tibus,

Non clausularum similiter cadentium sono
metiri:
Uni in hoc laudis genere *Miltono* secundus,
Primoque pene par.
Res, seu tenues, seu mediocres seu grandes,
Ornandas sumpserat,
Nusquam non quod decuit
Et videt et assecutus est,
Egregius, quocunque stylum verteret,
Fandi author et modorum artifex.
Fas sit huic
Auso licet a tuâ metrorum lege discedere
O poesis Anglicanæ pater atque conditor
Chaucer,
Alterum tibi latus claudere
Vatum certe cineres tuos undique stipantium
Non decebit chorum.
Simon Harcourt Miles,
Viri bene de se deque literis meriti,
Quoad viveret fautor,
Post obitum piè memor
Hoc illi saxum poni voluit.

J. Philips, Stephani S. T. P. Archidiaconi,
Salop; filius, natus est Bamptoniæ, in
agro Oxon, Dec. 30, 1676, obiit Here-
fordiæ, Feb. 15, 1708.

Church-Withington house is situated about one hundred yards south-east from the church, and from that circumstance probably acquired its name. The Philips's family were much devoted to the cause of Charles I. and a good engraving of that king in his

armour, and another of his queen, remain in the house lately occupied by Mr. Waring, vicar of Withington. These were probably at one time the property of the Philips's, who are said to have been honoured with a visit here from Charles II. in compliment to their loyalty.

Of the other lessees, Mr. William Brome was a cotemporary at Christ-Church with Philips, and his particular intimate. By an intermarriage between the Philips's and Bromes', the estates attached to the prebends of Church Withington and Ewithington became united in the latter family. Probably his residence with his relatives at Church Withington, and with his friend at Ewithington, afforded him the best opportunities of acquiring that knowledge of the process of Cider making, which he so ably communicates in his poem: for whilst he is celebrating the lands best adapted for the produce of that liquor, he takes an opportunity of justly complimenting at once, this parish and his friend:—

“ But, farmer, look where full-ear'd sheaves of rye
Grow wavy on the tilth; that soil select
For apples; thence thy industry shall gain
Tenfold reward: thy garners thence with store
Surcharg'd shall burst; thy press with purest juice
Shall flow, &c.”
“ Such thine, O learned Brome, &c.”*

Mr. Brome pursued his studies at Oxford with so much assiduity and success, that he was considered as a principal ornament of his college, which at that time was the residence of many persons of distinguished literature. He was particularly consulted by Mr. Urry, the learned and laborious editor of Chaucer, in the

progress of his work. Mr. Brome was intended for the profession of the church, but his political principles not allowing him to take the oaths to government, he lived in retirement at Ewithington. Here he formed the plan of writing the history of this county; a work for which he was not only eminently qualified by his great and general learning, but as being particularly an excellent naturalist and antiquary.* After making a considerable progress, he abandoned the design, and destroyed the valuable materials he had brought together; a loss, which it is feared, will be very imperfectly supplied by these Collections. The Bromes' were formerly of Brome, in Staffordshire, but were long seated in this county. It appears from a grant of arms, by Charles II. that they had then been living at Ewithington during many generations, in the character and respect of gentlemen, and were warmly attached to the person and cause of Charles I. William Brome, esq. the friend of Philips, had seventeen children; but such is the uncertainty of human events, that not one descendant now remains of this ancient and once numerous family. The residence at Ewithington, with the other estates in this county, was left by the late Mr. Griffith, to John Lilly, clerk, who has recently repaired the mansion in a substantial and respectable manner.

THINGHILL MAGNA belonged to the priory of St. Guthlake, at Hereford, (moniales, &c.)† with the adjoining manor of Felton: and they are thus noticed together in the Book of Fees‡ compiled in the reign of Henry III:—

A. D.
1216.

* Dunster's Philips, p. 10.

† Domesday.

‡ Harl. MS. 5223.

“ In Felton et Thyngull continentur 6 hidæ, quas prior de Hereford tenet in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, et erant de honore de Kyngton.”

At the dissolution of religious houses, Thinghill was granted to Sir John Pryce, and remained in his family during several generations, as detailed in the account of Felton. Being alienated by one of his descendants near the close of the seventeenth century, one portion was held by the Burghill family, and the other by a Mr. Carwardine. In the year 1700, General — Cornwall purchased the two parts, and left the whole to a female relative, who married William Moore, esq. who was succeeded in this property by his son William, who sold it A. D. 1799, to Francis Glossop, of London, esq. the present proprietor.

THINGHILL PARVA belonged, after the Norman conquest, to Nigel, the physician, and is thus surveyed in Domesday Book :—

“ In Tornelaus Hund: Terra Nigelli, medici.—Idem Nigellus tenet Tingehill, et Godfridus de eo: Spirites tenuit: ibi una hida non geld: in dominio sunt 2 carucatae et 4 servi: valebat et valet 20 sol.”

Thinghill next belonged to the Avenbury family, of whom Osbernus de Avenbury sold it, in the reign of Henry III. to Roger Burghull, of Burghull and Tyllington, who soon afterwards granted it to his son by the following deed :—“ Sciant, &c. quod ego Rogerus de Burghull, miles, et dominus de Tulington dedi, &c. Pagano filio meo pro servitio suo, totam terram et tenementum meum in parva Thingehulle, cum domibus edificiis, gardinis, curtilagiis, &c. &c. habend: de capitali domino feodi, sibi et heredibus suis, &c. &c. His testibus Domino Roberto de Chandois, Domino Rogero de Bradeley, Domino Ricardo de Hompton,

Domino Waltero de Ebroicis, militibus, Warino de Grendon, Johanne de Maurdyn, Thoma Awbrey et aliis.”* The sale by Osbern de Avenbury to Roger Burghull, was attested by Sir Robert de Chaundos, Sir Walter de Helyon, Sir Hugh de Fraxino, Sir Walter de Dunre, Waryn de Grendon, Richard de Clehonger, and others.† After Roger Burghull was Thomas, who married a daughter of — Horsley, and had issue William, who married Pernida, daughter of Thomas Walwyn, of Helens, and had issue, John, who married Ann, daughter and heiress of John Bullfinch, and had issue, 1. Rowland, and 2. William, who had eight daughters by two marriages. Rowland (the elder), married Jane, daughter of John Lynch, and had issue, Thomas, of Thinghill, who by his first wife Ann, daughter of Henry Parry, of Somersetshire, had 1. Richard, born 1572; 2 William; 3 Gilbert; 4 John; and three daughters, viz. Ann, Maria and Joan. By his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of — Bradock, he had also two sons, John and Richard. Soon after this date Thinghill parva was the residence of William Saxey, esq. who was many years chief justice of the province of Munster, in Ireland, and died here A. D. 1612. He was buried in the church of this parish, but it does not appear that he was proprietor of the estate, for a descendant of the Burghill family sold it about 1730, to James Terry, esq. who was succeeded by his son George Terry, esq. formerly receiver-general of this county, who dying A. D. 1780, was succeeded by his son George Terry, esq. now of Hereford.

* Ex ipso autograph: olim penes Arnold Burghill, gent.

† Blount's MS.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Withington was estimated at ten marks in the valuation of Pope Nicholas, A. D. 1292. In the *Liber Regis* it is a vicarage discharged from the payment of tenths, being there estimated at £.5 1s. 10d. per annum:—present value about £.200 per annum. The dean and chapter enjoy the great tithes of several estates; but nearly half of Thinghill magna pays no tithe: the other half pays one thirtieth to the dean, and one thirtieth to the vicar, who has also a portion of the great tithes. Thinghill parva claims an exemption from all tithes, by a payment or modus of 6s. 8d. per annum.

Mr. Waring was presented to the vicarage, A. D. 1723. He was succeeded by Dr. Horne, on whose resignation the Rev. Mr. Price, the present incumbent was instituted, A. D. 1797.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and is a handsome structure, consisting of a nave, a chancel and tower, with six bells, and a lofty spire above it. Between the nave and chancel are the remains of the rood loft, as usual, very delicately carved, and adorned with foliage gilt, &c. In the center are two niches highly ornamented, and probably designed for some religious effigies. The tower communicates with the church under a handsome pointed arch, springing from the head of a monk on one side, and that of a nun on the other. In the south wall is a nich about three feet high, and perhaps intended for a similar purpose to those in the rood loft. The windows were formerly distinguished by the arms of Mortimer, Burghill, &c.

INSCRIPTIONS.

*Within the Communion Rails.**On a Brass Plate inlaid in a Flat Stone.*

William Saxey, esq. of Thinghill parva, justice of the peace, and one of the quorum of the county of Hereford, and chief justice of the province of Munster, in Ireland, for the space of fifteen or sixteen years, was born at Bristol, and died at Little Thinghill, A. D. 1612.

Flat Stone.

James Hodges, of Hinton, in the parish of

Norton Canon, in this county, gent. died January 22, 1727, aged 62.

Also, Ann, daughter of Robert Scandrett, and Elizabeth his wife, died August 27, 1726.

Chancel.—On a Flat Stone.

Priscilla Hollins, of the City of Hereford, widow, died April 8, 1791, aged 68.

Nave.—on a Flat Stone.

John Sandford, died July 31, 1716, aged 27.

In the chancel window are these arms, *azure*, 3 fleur de lis, *or*; they were formerly quartered with a coat now destroyed. In a church window towards the south are also the following, *barry* of eight, *sable* and *argent*, over all a bend, a crescent for difference, being the arms of Burghill.

*Churchyard.**South side, on Flat Stones defended by iron railing.*

William Apperley, died March 11, 1726, aged 75.

Eleanor, his wife, daughter of John Havard, of Fownhope, died August 12, 1729, aged 79.

John, second son of William Apperley, by Eleanor, his wife, died December 8, 1727, aged 40.

On an Altar Tomb.

Alice, wife of Thomas Bullock, the elder, of Preston Wynne, was buried May 17, 1711.

John, son of Thomas Bullock, the younger, died December 6, 1720, in his 88th year.

Elizabeth, wife of John Havard Apperley, and daughter of John Knight, of How-Caple, died September 12, 1775, aged 54.

Arms of Apperley.—A chevron between three cones reversed.—Crest, a cone out of an esquire's helmet.

East side.—On Altar Monuments.

April 4, 1754, buried, Mr. Stephen Philips. [The monument is decayed and the inscription obliterated.]

Mr. Robert Philips, died April 11, 1759, aged 86.

Ann Philips, relict of Robert Philips, esq. died November 16, 1762, aged 86.

Anne Brome, daughter of William Brome, gent. and Anne his wife, died in the year of her age 77, of our lord, 1731.

Anne Brome, daughter of William Brome, gent. and Jane his wife, died in the year of her age 27, of our lord 1731.

William Brome, esq. died May 18, 1745, aged 81.

Jane Brome, relict of William Brome, esq. died April 12, 1749, aged 68.

Jas. Brome, esq. died May 6, 1770, aged 68.

Mrs. Jane Brome, died September 17, 1773, aged 67.

Olive Bennet, relict of Edward Bennet, of London, esq. and daughter of William Brome, of Ewithington, esq. died April 13, 1787, aged 72.
John and William, sons of Thomas Sandford and Joan his wife, both buried October 25, 1736.

Thomas Sandford, senior, of Nonington Court, died April 2, 1777, aged 81.
Joan, his wife, February 15, 1778, aged 89.
Anne, wife of Thomas Sandford, junior, died June 21, 1778, aged 65.

A stone in the west wall of the churchyard is thus inscribed:—

Richard Waring, clerk, A. M. prebendary of Llandaff, custos of the college of Hereford, and vicar of this parish forty-six years, and of Preston and Blackmere fifty-six years, died May 28, 1769, aged 81.—He greatly improved both livings, not by a rigorous exaction of tithes, but by a generous contribution out of his own

private fortune, toward their augmentation.

On the sides of the same Stone.

Richard Waring, A. M. (son of the above) late prebendary of Lincoln, was buried December 5, 1784, aged 75.
John, (son also of the above) died June 27, 1777.

BENEFACTION TO THE POOR.

Mrs. Elizabeth Byworth, of Nunnington, by will, dated January 26, 1637, bequeathed £.10 to build a school house, and £.100 to purchase lands for the maintenance of a mistress. With this sum, two meadows, the one called *Ash Hill*, and the other *De la Dowers*, were purchased, and the rents applied to the purposes intended.

BENEFACTIONS TO THE VICARAGE.

	£	s.	d.
The Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, jointly for this church and the chapel of Preston-Wynne	400	0	0
The Hon. and Rev. Dr. Godolphin, dean of St. Paul's	100	0	0
Richard Waring, A. M. vicar gave £.200, also expended £.300 in building the vicarage house, subscribed £.200 towards re-building Preston chapel,..	700	0	0
And collected about £.200 more for that purpose by voluntary contributions ..	200	0	0

PRESTON CHAPEL is situated in the north part of the parish, and is a neat and small building, consisting of a nave, chancel and tower, with pinnacles at the angles, and containing four bells. It is neatly paved with squares of brown stone and black marble, and is fitted up with oak pews, and sashed windows in a modern style, being re-built A. D. 1727. The names of the contributors on that occasion, are recorded in the chapel, and consist of the Duke

of Chandos, the Countess of Coningsby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Hereford, Llandaff, and Sarum, the corporation of Hereford, and the principal gentry and beneficed clergy of the county. It has already been mentioned that the Rev. Mr. Waring was a contributor of £.200. The present chapel contains no other memorial; but in the year 1677, John Tompkins and his wife were buried in the old chapel, at an interval of four months only, and each being of the age of one hundred years.*

PARISH OF WOLFRELOW.

WOLFRELOW is bounded on the east by Sapey, on the south by Tedstone-Wafre, on the west by Stoke Bliss, and on the north by Hanley-Child, in the county of Worcester.

A. D.
1060.

It has been supposed that the following extract from the *Monasticon Anglicanum*, referred to this parish:—"A. D. — Leofric, Earl of Mercia, and his wife Godive, at the instigation and desire of William, Bishop of Worcester, restored to the church, *Wlfordilea*, which had been long detained from it:"† but probably this relates to a different property; for immediately before the Norman conquest, Wolfrelow was held by Alurin, the sheriff, and afterwards by Walter, father of Earl William, and by Roger de Lacy, as is thus recorded in Domesday:—

"In Plegeliet Hund: Terra Rogeri de Laci: Idem Rogerus tenet in Vlferlau 6 hidas geld: et Hugo, et Walterus de eo: Wills:

* Blount's MS.

† Mon. Ang. 140.

Comes dedit Waltero patri ejus 4 hidas et dimid: et Rex Willielmus dedit Rogero—Hid: et dimid. Hanc terram tenuit Aluvinus vice-comes T. R. E. et quo volebat ire, poterat. In dominio sunt 2 carucatae et 6 villarii cum 3 carucatis, et adhuc 3 aliae possent esse. Ibi 3 servi. T. R. E. valebat 40 solid: modo 65.

A. D.
1086.

It does not at present appear who immediately succeeded the Lacys in Wolfrelow; but it was some time after held by a family of the name of Engleys, of whom Roger de Engleys possessed it in the reign of Henry III. when it was stated to consist of seven hides, answering for one knight's fee, and considered of the honour of Webley.

1216.

“In Wolfrelowe continentur septem hidæ, pro feodo unius militis, quas Rogerus de Engleys tenet de honore de Webeley, de veteri feoffamento.”*

In the following century, and perhaps earlier, the prioress and convent of Aconbury, in this county, had considerable possessions here, besides the appropriation of the great tithes, &c.

A lease was granted 16th Richard II. by the said prioress and convent (Joan Ledbury being then prioress), to Thomas Webbe, John Magdelyn, of Hereford, and Walter Cruyk, of Wolfrelowe, of all their arable lands and tenements in Wolfrelowe, with tithe, &c. for twenty years, under the annual rent of nine shillings payable half yearly.†

1393.

Early in the sixteenth century, the Packingtons‡ were lords of Wolfrelow, and in the first year of the reign of Elizabeth, the

* Lib. Feod. Hen. III. Harl. Bibl.

† Conventual Leases in Augmentation Office.

‡ Vide Sapey Parish.

manor continued to be held under the crown by military service, of the honour of Webley ; by ancient feoffament.

“ Anno Eliz: primo manerium de Wolfrelowe, tenetur de domina reginâ per servitium militare de veteri feoffamento.”

A. D.
1591.

1660.

The Packingtons sold their property here to the Salweys, about A. D. 1591, from whom it came by marriage with one of the co-heiresses of that family, to Sir Francis Winnington, knt. whose descendant Sir Edward Winnington, bart. as already detailed in the Collections for the parish of Sapey, dying A. D. 1805, left a son and heir, now Sir Thomas Winnington, bart. who is the present proprietor.

The soil of Wolfrelow is a loamy clay in some parts, and approaches to a sand in others. The river or brook called *the Frome*, rises in the north side of the parish, and runs into Upper Tedstone. A turnpike road from Hereford through Bromyard to Kidderminster and Bewdley, passes Wolfrelow, in length about one mile. North from the church is a small park, with deer, belonging to Sir Edward Winnington.

This small parish affords the only instance hitherto met with, of a decreased population ; and that nearly in the proportion of one half, within the last hundred and fifty years.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Wolfrelow is a vicarage, but since the dissolution of religious houses, has been endowed with the whole of the tithes. It is exempt from the payment of tenths, being estimated in the *Liber Regis*, at £.4 4s. 9d. per annum, but of the certified clear value of £.48. It was appropriated to the convent of Aconbury, in

the hundred of Wormelow, January 21, 1320, by Adam, Bishop of Hereford, with the consent of the chapter, the collation of the vicar being reserved to the bishop, to whose nominee the priory or convent agreed to allow a competent stipend, together with a pension of 3s. 4d. to the choristers of Hereford. The bishop, however, did not retain his right of presentation, as the prioress and convent appointed a vicar, January 7, 1349,* and afterwards. In the reign of Henry IV. the church of Wolfrelo was valued amongst the other possessions of this priory, at £.6 per annum.† After the suppression of religious houses by Henry VIII. the patronage was purchased by one of the Packingtons, and it has since passed, with the manor, to Sir Thomas Winnington, bart.

A. D.
1320.

1399.

A. D.	VICARS.		A. D.	VICARS.
1276	John de Monmouth.		—	—
1285	William de la Blake.		—	Richard Parker.
1296	Adam de Avenbury.		1466	David Hore.
1350	John Tyler.		1505	Thomas Parker.
1366	Gilbert Leye.		1524	Roger Frome.
PATRONS.		A. D.	INCUMBENTS.	
The Bishop (by lapse)	- -	1578	- -	William Wynne.
— - - -	- -	—	- -	Egidius Rawlins.
Thomas Child, esq.	- -	1678	- -	Moses Ludlow.
Francis Winnington, knt.	- -	1687	- -	Laus-Deo Malden.
Salwey Winnington, esq.	- -	1705	- -	John Addenbroke.
The same	- -	1727	- -	John Nash.
Thomas Winnington, esq.	- -	1736	- -	Robert Comyn.
Sir Edward Winnington	- -	1769	- -	John Walker.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and is a small and neat building, situated half a mile north from the turnpike road before-

* Reg. Trileck.

† Aconbury Register.

mentioned. It consists of a nave, chancel, and wooden cupola, with three bells. Against the north wall under an urn of statuary marble, are these inscriptions:—

Ursula Awbury, died Oct. 18, 1665.

Michael Hall, died June 20, 1640.

William Hall, died March 20, 1640.

Mathew Hall, jun. died August 29, 1668.

Matthew Hall, sen. died August 20, 1698.

Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Hall, died Nov. 14, 1701, aged 28.

Ann Hall, widow, died August 22, 1724, aged *one hundred and five*.

Matthew Hall, sen. of Underley, in this parish, died March 26, 1743, aged 43.

On Statuary Marble.

John Broome, died Oct. 31, 1698, aged 70.

Susannah, his wife, daughter of — Holloway, of Stoke, died April 7, 1730, aged 84.

Peter, their son, died Nov. 11, 1711, aged 34.

Winifred, his wife, daughter of Robert Cutler, of Street-Court, Herefordshire, died Feb. 18, 1733, aged 64.

Elizabeth, daughter of John and Susan Broome, and wife of Thomas Evans, of Kyre, died Jan. 24, 1756, aged 81.

John, their son, died Feb. 24, 1703, aged 25.

Also, Richard, their son, died Jan. 6, 1745, aged 61.

Peter, son of the above-named Peter and Winifred, died Jan. 17, 1776, aged 69.

Ann, his wife, daughter of Robert Butler, of Martley, died April 23, 1769, aged 61.

John, their only son, died June 15, 1786, aged 53.

Arms.—Or, 3 lions rampant, gules.

Elizabeth, wife of William Buckle, of Chasbury, in the county of Worcester, esq. died March 3, 1726, aged 67.

Mary, wife of Capt. Henry Hammond, of the city of London, merchant, died May 17, 1730, aged 67.

South Wall.

John Broome, gent. late of Ludlow, died Jan. 24, 1774, aged 70.

John Brockwell, July 3, 1769, aged 76.

Also John, his son, by Mary his wife, died May 2, 1750, aged 2 years.

Under the south window is a female effigies, hewn in relief from a brown stone, having the hands clasped on the breast, and the head supported by a small figure, perhaps intended to represent an angel. It is doubtless ancient, but has no marks to determine its date, nor the name of the person represented.

PARISH OF STANFORD-BISHOP.

STANFORD-BISHOP is bounded on the east by Suckley, and on the south by Acton-Beauchamp, both in the county of Worcester; on the west by part of Bromyard, and on the north by Avenbury.

The manerial rights of Stanford-Bishop have constituted part of the revenues of the see of Hereford from the earliest dates, and consequently afford no particular materials for history. A principal estate in the parish has belonged to a branch of the Freeman family during several generations.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Stanford-Bishop is a curacy under Bromyard, the tithes being appropriated to the first portionist of that church. An augmentation from the fund called Queen Anne's Bounty, has lately been procured for the curate, who is nominated by the portionists of Bromyard. The chapel is dedicated to St. James, and is situated on an eminence about two miles south-east from Bromyard: it consists of a nave, chancel, and low tower, with two bells. The entrance is under a plain Saxon arch, supported by circular pillars: on the south side of the chancel is the *lavacrum*, projecting in relief from the wall, under a pointed arch. On flat stones within the communion rails are these inscriptions:—

Martha, wife of Alexander Handcocks, died
April 15, 1671.

Harbutt (perhaps Herbert) Handcocks, of
the Hide (in this parish), died Dec. 17,
1693, aged 34.

Mary, wife of Edward Handcocks, gent. died
April 24, 1711, aged 23.

Mr. Edward Handcocks, died June —, 1721,
aged 33.

Richard, son of William Barritt and Margaret his wife, died July 1, 1725, aged 17.

Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Portman, of the Boyce (in this parish), died Jan. 27, 1700, aged 17.

Elizabeth, wife of Thomas, died Nov. 1717, aged 77.

Thomas Barnes, son of William Barnes, gent. and Sarah his wife, died June 29, 1766, aged 50.

South Wall of the Chancel.

Arms.—or, a lion rampant—two heads and necks, tongued, *gules*.

Robertus Mason, qui fuit prætorii dominus et hujus ecclie patronus fatis cessit, April 16, A. D. 1684, ætat: 63.

Et in eodem tumulo depos: reliq: Hesteræ uxoris quæ obiit, Sept. 28, 1709, ætat 83; leaving five sons and two daughters.

North Wall of the Chancel.

Rev. John Landon, A. M. rector of Nurstead and Ilstead, in Kent, died June 3, 1777, aged 77.

On a Brass Plate.

Dorcas, daughter of John Holland, gent. and Catherine his wife;—Also German, their son, are interred here, 1726.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

William Mason, died Sept. 19, 1693, aged 70.

Richard, his son, died 1717, aged 69.

*North Wall of the Church,
(On a Brass Plate).*

Joyce, wife of Thos. Lane, gent. was buried Dec. 21, 1720, aged 42.

Flat Stones in the Church.

Sarah, wife of — Tyfield, died —

George Lane, died April, 1663.

Francis Bateman, died May 28, 1708.

— Lane, died Sept. 20, 1648.

Thomas Colly, died April 3, 1686.

South Wall.

Joyce, relict of Francis Freeman, late of the Court, in this Parish, gent. died Oct. 9, 1753, in the 61st year of his age.

Also Eleanor, wife of John Freeman, died Jan. 11, 1782, aged 59.

Jane, their daughter, died in her infancy.

Flat Stones in the Aisle.

Ursula, wife of John Dimock, died Oct. 29, 1718, aged 56.

John Dimock, died April 30, 1731, aged 68.

At the west end of the aisle is a plain circular font on a square base.

PARISH OF TEDSTON WAFRE.

TEDSTON WAFRE is bounded on the south-east by Tedston de la Mere, on the north by Wolfrelow, on the west by Edwin-Loch, and on the east by Lower Sapey, both in the county of Worcester.

Tedston anciently belonged to the Wafre family, from whom it received the additional name. In the reign of Henry III.—“ In Toddestorne una hida, quam Robertus de Wafre tenet de Johanne Waldbeof, et idem Johannes de honore de Breyknock de veteri feoffamento.”*

The obit of Alice, mother of the above-mentioned Robert, was annually celebrated in Hereford Cathedral: but in the following reign, the Mortimers were lords of Tedston. Of these, Roger de Mortimer had free warren here 14th of Edward I. and presented to the church in the same year. This great family held Tedston until the middle of the fifteenth century, after which it was purchased by the Coningsbys, through whom it passed (as detailed in Collington, &c.) to the present Earl of Essex, who sold it with other property, to William Higginson, of Saltmarsh, esq. the present proprietor.

A. D.
1286.

1450.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Tedston Wafre is a rectory, united to that of Edwin Loch, in Worcestershire—the parish, and consequently the ecclesiastical value, are very small.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Nobilis Vr: Rogerus de Mortuomari - - - }	1285 - -	Robert de la Donne.
Portionaries of Bromyard, by commission from Roger de Mortimer - - - }	1313 - -	— de Maudyn.
The Bishop, by lapse - -	1367 - -	Roger de la More.
John de Mortimer - -	1367 - -	W. de Burton Flemings.

* Lib: Ten: Henry III.

PATRONS.	A. D.	INCUMBENTS.
Roger de Mortimer - - -	1394 -	John Castell.
- - -	-	John Potter.
The Bishop, by lapse - - -	1476 -	John Sebrond.
- - -	-	Nicholas Smith.
The Bishop - - -	1514 -	John Halcrofte.
Humphrey Coningsby - - -	1550 -	John Potter.
Humphrey Coningsby - - -	1556 -	William Morton.
John Habbard, and Ann, his wife, late wife of former patron - - - }	1561 -	John Potter.
- - -	-	Richard Jay.
The Bishop, by lapse - - -	1666 -	John Grove.
- - -	-	Francis Weaver.
Thomas, Lord Coningsby - - -	1715 -	Henry Morgan.
The same - - -	1717 -	John Chamberlain.
Margaret, Countess of Coningsby	1756 -	John Holland.
Lady Frances Coningsby - - -	1779 -	William Davies.
The same - - -	1780 -	John Glasse.
William Higginson - - -	1811 -	Thomas Barneby.

The church is a very small and inferior building, it comprises a nave and chancel, and is situated in a field four miles from Bromyard. The right of sepulture is at Edwin Loch: and in consequence there are no inscriptions or memorials here.

EWYAS-LACY HUNDRED.

THE Hundred of EWYAS-LACY forms the south-west border of Herefordshire; being bounded in that direction by the counties of Brecknock and Monmouth. This district originally constituted a part of Cambria (now Wales), was afterwards included in the *Marches*,* and at length, 27th Henry VIII. A. D. 1536, was by act of parliament incorporated with the county of Hereford. The word *Gwys*, or *Gwias*, implies a place of battle in the British language, and justly describes the turbulence and warfare which long prevailed here.—The word *Lacy* refers to one of its lords as will be noticed hereafter.

Roderick the Great, was Prince of all Wales, about A. D. 870; and dying, divided it between his three sons, calling the first division Gwynedh (North-Wales), the second, Deheubarth (South-Wales), and the third, Powys. In each of these he had prepared a palace for the residence of the prince: that of Deheubarth (the county which included Ewyas), was first fixed at Caermardhyn, but soon afterwards removed to Dinevowr,† and the name of

* The tract called the *Marches*, consisted of the disputed frontier between England and Wales, which was at different times granted by the kings of the former to their nobles (who hence acquired the name of lords marchers), to be held under the crown, on condition of their building castles to restrain the hostile incursions of the Welsh. They were the scene of frequent hostilities during several centuries after the Norman conquest.

† Dinevowr Castle is situated near Llandilo, in the county of Carmarthen, on the right bank of a most beautiful vale intersected by the river Towey. The remains of the castle are

Deheubarth exchanged for that of the new seat of government. This principality or kingdom of Dinevowr, was bounded on the west by Glamorgan and Brecknockshires, on the north by Herefordshire, on the east by Gloucestershire, with the river Wye, and on the south and south-east by that of Severn.* The country was divided into many parts, and again subdivided into what were termed cantrefs or cantreds, and comots. The first divisions of Dinevowr were called Caredigion, Dyuet, Caermardhyn, Morganwc, Gwent, and Brecheinoc: the subdivisions of Gwent were three cantrefs and ten comots—the cantref named “Iscoed, comprehending the comots of Rrynbuga, Vwchoed, y-Teirtref, and *Erging ac Ewas*, now in Herefordshire.”†

“In this part (Dinevour), is the ancient citie of Caerltreon-upon-Vsk, where was the archbishop’s see of Wales: here are also diuers townes and castels, as Chepstowe, Glyn-Strigul, Ros, Tyn-tern upon the river Wye: there is also Newport, called *Y Castell Newdh*, Vysk, called *Brynnbuga*, Grosmont, Raglan, White Castell, Abergeuenny, and manie other. This is a faire and a fertile countrie, of which the gentlemen were neuer obedient to their prince, which was the cause of their own destruction.”‡

A. D.
940.

Roderick the Great was succeeded by his son Anarwd; soon after his death, Howel Dha acquired the sovereignty of all Wales, and “perceiuing the lawes and customes of his countrie to haue

still to be seen on the top of a hill covered with venerable oaks; and the whole presents a scene of unusual grandeur and beauty. It gives the title of baron to George Talbot Rice Cardonell, in right of his mother Cecil, daughter of Earl Talbot, who was created Baron Dinevour, with the remainder to the said Cecil and her heirs male. Cecil, on the death of her mother, assumed her maiden name (Cardonell), and marrying the Right Hon. George Rice, left issue, the present George Talbot Rice Cardonell, Baron Dinevour, married A. D. 1794, to a daughter of Lord Viscount Sydney.

* Powell’s Description of Wales, A. D. 1584.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

growne into great abuse, sent for the Archbishop of Meneuia, and all the other bishops and chiefe of the cleargie, to the number of 140 prelates, and all the barons and nobles of Wales, and caused sixe men of the wisest and best esteemed in euerie comote to be called before him, whome he commanded to meete all together at his house called *Y Tay gwyn ar Taf* (i. e. the White House on the river Taf). Thither he came himsele, and there remained with those his nobles, prelates, and subjects all the Lent, in praier and fasting, crauing the assistance of God's holy spirit, that he might reforme the lawes and customes of the countrie of Wales, to the honour of God, and to the quiet government of the people. About the end of Lent he chose out of that companie twelue men of the wisest, gravest, and of the greatest experience: to whome he added one clearke or doctor of the lawes named *Blegored*, a singular learned and perfect wise man. These had in charge to examine the old lawes and customes of Wales, and to gather out of those, such as were meete for the government of the countrie: which they did, reteining those that were wholesome and profitable, expounding those that were doubtful and ambiguous, and abrogating those that were superflous and hurtful, and so ordeined three sorts of lawes: the first, of the ordering of the king's or prince's household and his court: the second, of the affaires of the countrie and commonwealth; the third of the special customes belonging to particular persons and places."

It was probably under the second of these general heads, that a more particular division of the country was included. By this regulation:—

Four Tenements were to form	A Rhandir.
Four Rhandirs	A Ganell or Garell.
Four Ganells	A Township.

Four Townships A Manor.
 Twelve Manors (with Two Townships in the King's } .. A Comot.
 Demesne)
 And Two Comots A Cantref.

A. D.
1060.

1283.

Ewias thus divided, continued a part of Wales till the following century, when through the endeavours made by Edward the Confessor and Harold, to subdue the Welsh, the boundary between the two states became an armed frontier, varying as the success of war determined it for the time. This district was called "the Marches," and included Ewias, within the limits of which a castle* was erected, to assist in restraining and overawing the Welsh. At the Norman conquest, this castle was given to or seized by Walter de Laci, whose name the whole district still bears. Walter de Laci did homage to the king for these lands, under the title of "Terra de Ewyas."† But, notwithstanding all Wales afterwards submitted to Edward I. and was divided into counties similar to those of England, the ground which had been so long disputed, still remained a (kind of) neutral frontier, under the indefinite appellations of "Terra," "Libertas," "Finis," or "Regio," and retained several vestiges of its original customs.

1292.

"Ewias Libertas—Theob: Vernon—ubi breve regis non currit, et infra cujus precinctum, omnibus quibus action: com: de transgressionibus faciend: infra libertates, &c. debent consequi justitiam.—Rot. pl. coram justic: apud Westm. 20 Edw. I."

At length the Marches were added to the adjoining counties, and *inter alia* Ewyas Lacy was incorporated with the county of Hereford, 27th Henry VIII. A. D. 1536. The names of places,

* In the Parish of Clodock, q. v.

† Powell's Description of Wales.

however, on this (the right) bank of the river Wye are still frequently found to be of British derivation, and seem with other circumstances to point out that river to have been the most permanent, as it was the most natural boundary, between England and Wales in that direction. Thus, the word *Llân*,* occurs as part of the compound names of the several parishes of Llandinabo, Llangarran, Llanihangle, Llansilo, Hentland, Llanwarn, and others, all of which are situated on the south or right bank of the Wye; and is very rarely met with in the opposite district, although it comprehends more than twice the extent of the other. The principal exception (*Llan-Lieni*, Leominster), is accounted for by the circumstance of the church there being founded, according to some writers, by a regulus of Archenfield (the comot called *Erging* by Roderick), which is situated on the south of the river, in the hundred of Wormelow, and even to this day retains peculiar privileges of British origin, as will be noticed in the Collections for that district.

The hundred of Ewyas Lacy, in its modern state, consists of the parishes of Clodock (called also Longtown), Cusop, Llansilo, St. Margaret's, Michaelchurch-Escle, Rowlston, and Walterston; also an estate called "the Futhog," and another called "Trewin," which are situated in the Bwlch, a township attached to this county, although part of the parish of Cwmoye, which belongs to Monmouthshire.

It appears probable that the whole of this hundred (excepting perhaps Cusop), formed, with extensive lands in

* *Llân*, originally signified an inclosure, then was particularly applied to the inclosure in which a church was erected—then a church itself—and lastly, in its most extended sense, to any place or thing devoted to sacred purposes.

Monmouthshire, one great honour or manor, the lord of which, Roger de Laci, held his residence in the castle of Clodock, or as it has been called of late years, Longtown. This Walter, or his successor, gave the subordinate manors of Cwmyoye, Walterston, and Newton, to the abbot and convent of Llanthony, together with the rectories and churches of Clodock, Cwmyoye, Llansilow, Rowston, Walterston, and Trewyn, in this hundred. Most of the other subordinate or component manors formed part of the inheritance and royalty of the lords of Burgavenny (now Abergavenny); and have passed with that honour, which was bestowed by Brien of Wallingford (who had it from Sir Hameline Balun, lord thereof), on Walter, son of Miles, Earl of Hereford. By his death and his brother's, it devolved on his sisters, and on the partition it went with Abergavenny and Brecknock, to the Braoses, as appears by the chronicles of the Earls of Hereford. From the Braoses it passed in right of marriage by the Cantilupes to the Hastings, who being Earls of Pembroke, enjoyed it during several descents. At length John Hastings, having no child, devised both it and the Earldom of Pembroke (as far as in him laid), to his cousin, Sir William Beauchamp, on condition that he should bear his arms. This was confirmed by his next heir, Reginald Lord Grey, of Ruthin. The daughter and heiress of Richard Beauchamp married Sir Edward Neville, and thus brought Ewyas Lacy into the family of the present possessor, the Earl of Abergavenny: for after a debate of seven days in parliament, A. D. 1655, the barony of "Burgavenny" was confirmed to the Nevilles, but the barony of Despencer, which had been deemed an appertenance to it, was adjudged to the Fanes.

This hundred anciently contained two forests, which adjoined each other, and were called, the one Hene, or Ewyas; and the other Olchon, or Olphon: they were probably united at one period. The latter, with other undivided parts of the manor of Ewyas, passed by marriage into the Hopton family, and was held by Ralph, Lord Hopton, A. D. 1630. Sir Trevor Williams, of Pontilas, married Elizabeth, only daughter of Rachel, eldest sister of Lord Hopton; and Thomas Windham, esq. married Catherine, his third sister, and thus brought this property into their husbands' families, which being afterwards sold to John Jeffries, esq. about the year 1700, descended to the present proprietor Walter Jeffries, of Brecon, esq. who thus shares the manor of Ewyas Lacy with the Earl of Abergavenny.

The following is taken from a survey of this manor, which was begun by Richard Crofts, in the sixth year of the reign of Charles II. and continued till the eighth of the said reign, viz. in the year 1667:—

A. D.
1665.

“ The Jurors say and present the boundary of the said manor to be as followeth:—Beginning at Whitowall, near Codopoth, from thence to the lordship of Hay-Ury, or Worrishay, north-east, dividing the lordship of Hinton and Ewyas; from thence to a place, called Pen-y-Vagr, north-east, dividing the Mear between Snowdale and Ewyas; from thence to a place called Mynith-bwoth, dividing the lordship of Clifford and Ewyas, and so from thence following the mountain, dividing the lordship of Cusop and Ewyas, north-west, from thence to a place called Forwft Gearlth, dividing the lordship of the Hay and Ewyas; and from thence to the mountain called Creeb Cathe, and so passing the mountain Creeb Cathe from the White Stone, to a place called Parkbach, dividing there the countys of Hereford and Brecon, which said mountain of Creeb Cathe by the height of the same divideth two forrests, the one called forrest Hene, being the Lord Abergavenny's, the other called the forrest of Olpho, belonging unto the said Sir Trevor Williams, in right of Dame Elizabeth, his wife, who was the only daughter of Rachel, eldest sister of Ralph, late Lord Hopton; and unto Thomas Windham, esq. in right of his mother, Catherine, third sister of the said late Ralph, Lord Hopton, and from Parkbach aforesaid, to the height of the mountain of Hatterell, dividing the lordship of Lanthony, being the lordship of John Arnold, esq. and Ewyas Lacy west, and so following the mountain of Hatterell by the height, to the river Honthy south-west, dividing there the countys of Hereford and Monmouth from the river Honthy, leading over a bridge called Pont-Rees-

Poweles, through part of the county of Monmouth aforesaid, to the forest or mountain called Keven Coed Ewyas, which said forrest or mountain shooteth in with an angle between the said countys of Monmouth and Brecon, and nevertheless is parcel of the lordship of Ewyas, in the county of Hereford, south-west, which forrest or mountain containeth in length about two miles, which is the Mear between the lordship of Lanthony, in the county of Monmouth, on one side, and the river Gwyney or Gronow, which runs between the county of Brecon and the said lordship of Ewyas on the other side; and from the river Honthy as aforesaid, the Mear of the lordship of Ewyas joineth to the point of the Haterell, directs into the river or small stream called Grwggy south, dividing the countys of Hereford and Monmouth aforesaid, and so followeth the river Grwggy into the river Monow, joining where John Delahay, esq. now dwelleth, called Alteryne, and so along the said river Monow unto Langua Bridge south-east, dividing there also the countys of Hereford and Monmouth, and so following to a place called Caenewid, and from thence leding to a place called Plash, east, dividing the lordship of Ewyas Harrold, and the lordship of Ewyas, and from thence to the river Dulass, and New Court, north-east, and so up along the said river Dulass by the Nether Mesecode, and so up to the upper end of Middle Mesecode, and so along following the wood or common called Upper Mesecode, to Codepoth, to Whitewall aforesaid, where the Mere of the lordship begineth."

Another survey of this manor was taken in the year 1701, and accurately states the present boundaries, &c.:—

"*MANOR of EWYAS LACY.*—At a Court Baron with a Court of Survey held under the said Lord for the Manor aforesaid, on the * * * * * day of November, in the thirteenth year of the reign of William, the Third King of Great Britain, &c. and in the year of our Lord, 1701, before Bennett Delahay, gent. Steward there:—James Nicholls, William Harris, Thomas Smith, Thomas Jenkines, Joseph Simones, William Rogers, Thomas Harper, Howell Watkines, William Prosser, William Price, Johannes Watkines, James Watkines, Charles Nicholl, Thomas Eustance, Nathan Lewis, William Watkines, *Jurors.*

"To the first article, the said jury do, upon their oath, say and present the boundaries of the said manor of Ewyas Lacy to be as followeth, viz.—Beginning at Whitewall, near Coed Poth, from thence to the lordship of Hey Urey, or Worrish Hey, north-east, dividing the lordship of Hinton and Ewyas, to a place called Pen-y-Vagr, north-east, dividing the meare between Swowdle and Ewyas, by the meare of the parish of Michael Church Escle, and the parish of Peter Church, and from thence by and along the meare dividing between the said parish of Michael Church Escle, and the parish of Dorston, to a place called Crose-y-Killogee, there dividing the meare between the parish of Cloduck and the parish of Cusop, north-west, from thence to a place anciently called Forrest Yearlth, to the meare dividing the lordship of the Hay and Ewyas, thence to the White Stone, being the meare dividing there the counties of Hereford and Brecon, and thence to a place called Park Bach, to the meare also dividing the said counties of Hereford and Brecon, and from Park Bach aforesaid, to the height of the mountaine of Hattrell, dividing the lordship of Llanthony and Ewyas, by the fall of the water of the said mountaine, west, and so following the height of the said mountaine to and through the meare dividing the parish of Old Castle, and the parish of Cloduck, to the river of

Munnow, and so following the said river of Munnow down to a certain prill of Water, dividing or mearing between the said parish of Old Castle and the Parish of Cwmyoy, and so leading to the top of the said mountain of Hattrell, to the meare dividing there the said counties of Monmouth and Hereford aforesaid, to the river of Hothney, south-west, and so along the said river of Hothney to the middle of a certain bridge called Pont Rees Powell, and from the middle of the said bridge through part of the county of Monmouth aforesaid, to a forrest or mountain called Hefen Coed Ewgar, so along the top or height of the said mountain, dividing there the lordship of Llanthoney aforesaid, in the said county of Monmouth on one side, eastward, to a certain place called Quar-y-Van, and thence along a certain piece of water called Nant-yr-Erith to the river of Growney or Gronow, which runs there between the said counties of Brecon and Hereford, westward, and divides between the said county of Brecon and manor of Ewyas on the other side to a certain place called Pont-y-skil, south-west, and from thence leading along the Comb called Wiggin Dee, through a certain place, called Coed-y-Kerrig, to a certain place called Pen-y-Gare, dividing there the counties of Monmouth and Hereford aforesaid, which said forrest of Ewyas containeth in length two miles, and half a mile in breadth: and further the said lordship of Ewyas meareth from the said bridge called Pont Rees Powell, along the meare dividing the counties of Monmouth and Hereford aforesaid, to a little prill of water called Loygee, alias Gwrgy, and so following the said prill unto the river of Hothney aforesaid, and thence along the meare dividing the lands of James Springer, esq. in the county of Monmouth, and the lands of Thomas Delahay, gent. in the said county of Hereford, unto the said river of Hothney, and from thence along the said river of Hothney, into the river of Monow, and from thence along the said river of Monow, to a certain bridge called Llangua Bridge, south-east, dividing there also the said counties of Hereford and Monmouth, and from thence to a place called Ca Newith, and from thence leading to a place called the Plash, east, dividing between the lordship of Ewyas Harrold and the said lordship of Ewyas, and from thence along the meares mearing between the parishes of Cloduck and Dulas, to the river called Dulas, and so up along the said river of Dulas to Nether Mescoed, and from thence following the meare dividing between the hundred of Webtree and the hundred of Ewyas Lacy to Whitewall aforesaid, where the mear of the said lordship of Ewyas Lacy beginneth.

“ And the said jury do further say, that all fines, perquisites of court, issues, amerciements, herriots, waifes, estrais, treasure, trove, felons' goods and deodands, happening within the said manor, together with the royalties of hawking, hunting, fishing, and fowling, doe of right belong to the lord of this manor, and do also say, that they do not know of any person or persons that have intruded or incroached upon the said manor, or any of the said franchises, liberties, and privileges belonging thereto.”

PARISH OF CLODOCK.

CLODOCK is bounded on the north and east by the hundred of Webtree, on the south by Walterston, and on the west by Llantony, in Monmouthshire, and the Hatterel Mountains. This parish, which extends from the south to the north-west, seven miles, is said to take its name from Cleodoceus,* a British saint, to whom the church is dedicated: but no saint of that name is found in the usual authorities.

The Romans are supposed to have had a station at Longtown, in this parish, but writers do not agree in naming it. Some suppose it to have been called Cicutio, others Blestium.† A branch of the Watling Street road, which leads to Wroxeter (Uriconium), having passed the Severn in that place, directs its course through the south part of Shropshire by Church Stretton, still preserving its name, and so on to Leintwardine, where it crosses the river Teme. Hence it continues through Herefordshire, by Kenchester and Abergavenny, and thence through Monmouthshire, by Usk, to Caer Leion.‡ Longtown being situated in the line between Kenchester and Abergavenny, might very possibly have been chosen for the purpose above mentioned. In further corroboration, there are still traces of a Roman road through the river Wye near Kenchester, leading by Madley, and perhaps Poston, in the parish of Turnaston (where is a Roman entrench-

* Ex vet MSS. Abbat: Doræ.

† Antoninus.

‡ General Roy's Military Antiquities of the Romans in Britain, 1793.

ment), in the direction towards Longtown. Antoninus in his 12th Iter, makes the distance from Kenchester (Magna), to Abergavenny (Gobannium), twenty-two miles. The 13th Iter of Richard of Cirencester, supposes it twenty-three miles.

On the site of this station a castle was erected some time before the Norman conquest: it was doubtless the work of one of the lords marchers, and the ruins still remaining point out its original form. An outer wall, composed of mould and stones raised at least to the height of twenty feet, inclosed an area about one hundred yards square; in the north-west angle of which, on a keep somewhat higher than the wall stood a circular tower (of which a great part still remains), having three round buttresses or turrets at equal distances, half of each projecting from the tower: between these buttresses were as many circular apertures for windows. The walls were very thick, and built of a hard stone dug up in laminæ, not much exceeding the superficies and thickness of a common tile. The foundation appears in several parts, and the first stones were not placed horizontally, but on their edges. The area inclosed within the outer wall was equally divided by a ditch, brought to the level of the ground on the outside, from north to south: the part towards the west was also divided in the contrary direction by a strong wall, through which a communication was opened between the inner and outer courts by an arched gateway, having circular pillars of great strength projecting on each side.—The apartments were situated at the south end of the eastern division of the area; but their foundations have been removed, in order to apply the stone to more modern purposes.

“ In Cutestorn Hund: Terra Rogeri de Laci.—In Castellarià de Ewias dedit Wills: Comes, Waltero de Laci, 4 car: træt: wastas.

Rogerus de Laci fil: ejus ten: eas, et Wills: et Osbernus de eo. In dominio habent 2 car: et 4 Walenses redd: 2 sextar: mellis et habent 1 car:—Ibi habent 3 servos et 2 bord: hæc tra: valet 20 solidos.”

“ Isd: Rogerus habet unam Tram: Ewias dictam in fine Ewias, hæc tra: non pert: ad castell: neque ad hund. De hâc trâ habet Rogerus 15 sextar: mellis et 15 porcos quando hoes sunt ibi—et placita super eos.”

From this extract it appears that the castle of Ewyas was then situated in the hundred of Cutestorn, and was given by Earl William (Fitz-Osborn), to Walter de Laci, whose name it afterwards bore: that the extent of the land belonging to it was four carucates, and was held by Roger, the son of Walter, and by William and Osbern under him. There were also two carucates in demesne, and four Welshmen paying two sextaries* of honey, and renting one carucate. There were also three servants and two borderers; and the land was valued at twenty shillings.

The same Roger had other lands called Ewyas, which were situated in the district so called, and neither belonged to the castle nor to the hundred. From these lands he received fifteen sextaries of honey, and fifteen pigs, when the tenants (over whom he had legal authority), were there.

Roger de Laci had also three churches with priests, and thirty-two acres of land, and an annual rent of two sextaries of honey, under Henry de Ferrires, within the jurisdiction of the castle. Lastly, it appears that there were two dwelling houses within the walls, which probably afforded residences for the several officers.

Dr. Powell, in his History of Wales, thus relates the taking this castle:—

* A sextary was sometimes a pint and an half, and sometimes more.

“ In the year 1146, Cadelph, Meredith, and Rhys, the sons of Gwffyth ap Rhys ap Theodor, brought an army before the castle of Gwys, or Gwias, in Herefordshire, but finding themselves too weak to master it, they desired Howell, son to Prince Owen Gwynedd, of North Wales, a person famously remarkable for martial endowments, to come their assistance.—Howell, who was very desirous to signalize himself, and to evidence his valour in the world, redily consented to their request; and having drawn his forces together, marched directly towards Gwys (now Ewias), where being arrived, he was joyfully received, and honorably esteemed by such lords as desired his help.—Having viewed the strength and fortification of the castle, he found it was impracticable to take the place unless the walls could be destroyed; and therefore he gave orders, that certain battering engines should be provided; whilst the rest should gaul and molest the besieged, by throwing of great stones into the castle.—The enemies perceiving what irresistible preparations the besiegers contrived, thought it to no purpose to withstand their fury; and therefore to do that voluntarily which must be done by compulsion, they presently yielded up the castle.”

No further accounts have been met with relative to the military history of this castle. The turbulence of the vicinity rendered it an unpleasant residence, whilst the lords possessed and perhaps preferred, other castles of equal importance and of greater security. The mouldering hand of time has probably contributed more to its destruction than the *Ballistæ*, the *Petrards*, or the *Mangonels*, of our forefathers. The keep of the original building (with other traces of its former consequence), still frowns with majestic dignity over a pleasant vale, watered towards the south, by the

streams of the Munnow. The absence of trees plainly point out, with other circumstances, that cultivation has but recently and gradually extended itself on the western bank of the river; and that good roads and agricultural improvements, now in progress, will materially add to the value and fertility of this interesting district.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The church of Clodock, with various manors, &c. in this vicinity, was given by Walter de Lacy, or his successor, to the Prior and Convent of Llanthony, who assigned a portion of the small tithes as a maintenance for the officiating priest. The other tithes were appropriated to the use of the convent. After the dissolution of religious houses by Henry VIII. the rectory and church of Clodock were granted, *inter alia*, to Nicholas Arnold, esq. in consideration of the sum of £.160. The grant specifies the tithes in these words:—"Also, all the tenths of blade, sheaf, and grain, and other tenths whatsoever in Futhog, Ewyas Lacy, &c. &c." Various manors were also included in the same grant, in which the king guaranteed to the said Nicholas Arnold, &c. an exemption from the payment of 40s. per annum, hitherto paid to William Vaughan, steward of those manors; also from 13s. 4d. hitherto paid yearly to Thomas Lewis, clerk, for his stipend as curate; from 16s. 8d. paid to Thomas ap Howell, constable of the castle of Llanthony; from 26s. 8d. to Thomas Nicholls, bailiff of the manor of Cwmyoye; from 16s. 8d. to Jenkin ap Thomas, bailiff of Newton, for his fee; from 13s. 4d. to Thomas ap Rosser, collector of the portions and tithes of sheaf in Ewyas Lacy, for his fee; from £.6, for the salary or stipend paid

to the chaplain, having cure of souls in the parish church of St. Martin, in Cwmyoye, and of St. Clodock, in Ewyas Lacy; from 4s. 1½d. to the Bishop of St. David's, for procurations and synodals from the said churches; from 10s. to the Archdeacon of Brecon for ditto; and from 10s. paid to the Chancellor of the cathedral church of Hereford, or of the cathedral church of St. David's, for the indemnity of the churches aforesaid, being within the diocese of Hereford. Dated 18th June, 38 Henry VIII.—A. D. 1547.

The Arnolds sold or leased these tithes, &c. to the Oxford family, and the present Earl of Oxford disposed of some of them to the proprietors of the soil, and the remainder to George Cornwall, esq. son and heir of Sir George Cornwall, of Moccas, bart.

Clodock is now a vicarage, in the deanery of Hay, and in the diocese of St. David: the patronage remained with the house of Llanthony until the dissolution, has since passed from the Reeces to the Vaughans, and recently to a branch of the ancient family of Wilkins, of Maeslough, in Brecknockshire. The Rev. Mr. Sparkes is the present incumbent. The rights of the vicars are recorded on a tablet in the church, and are copied after the sepulchral inscriptions. This church has three subordinate chapels, viz. Crasswall, which is dedicated to St. Mary; Llanveyno, to St. Peter; Longtown, to St. Peter; and perhaps formerly had a fourth within the castle. Of these, the first three remain, but have nothing worthy of description.

The church of Clodock is well built of stone, and includes a nave, chancel, and handsome embattled tower, with five bells. On the north wall of the chancel are the following memorials:—

Elizabeth, wife of William Reece, clerk,
died July 13, 1719, aged 30.

Margaret, daughter of William and Hannah
Jones, died Jan. 30, 1805, aged 23.

Hannah, her sister, died April 30, 1807,
aged 22.

David Jones, died April 22, 1807, aged 75.

Mary, wife of John Powles, heiress at law to
the late John Madox, gent. of Ty-Maur,
in this parish, died December 11, 1784,
aged 56.

James Lewis, of Llanvihangel Crucorne, died
October 20, 1801, aged 83.

John Price, of Olehon, died Jan. 25, 1764,
aged 67.

James, his son, died Oct 1, 1781, aged 65.

Ann, his relict, died Oct. 12, 1781, aged 65.

William, his son, died May 6, 1807, aged 58.
(Underneath).

" Beneath this place lies buried here,
The father, son, and mother dear."

South Wall.

Thomas Gwilym, of the Bwlch, died Jan.
13, 1742, aged 81.

John Davis, of the Hunt-house, died June
21, 1780, aged 67.

Mary, his wife, died Oct. 30, 1792, aged 78.

Thomas Davis, of Hunt-house, died June
29, 1803, aged 39.

East Wall.

Hester Jenkins, of Glandoore, died March
22, 1792, aged 66.

John Jenkins, of Glandoore, died Feb. 26,
1742, aged 66.

Elizabeth, his wife, died June 26, 1760,
aged 72.

Richard, their infant son, died March, 1722.

Elizabeth, wife of David Price, died Nov. 4,
1795, aged 66.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

Thomas Gwilym, died 1685.

Catherine Gwilym, died Feb. 11, 1704.

Thomas, their son, died Jan. 13, 1742.

William Harris, 1740, aged 60.

Sybil, his wife, died June 3, 1766, aged 75.

North Wall of Church.

Rowland Jennings, of the Wayne, died May
7, 1698, aged 72.

Catherine, his wife, died April 26, 1698.

Rowland, their son, died March 16, 1741,
aged 41.

South Wall.

William Gwilym, of the Hunt-house, gent.
died March 1, 1781, aged 47.

North Wall.

" At the Hereford Summer Assizes, A. D. 1805, the following moduses were established
in this parish :—

6d. for every house and garden, in lieu of
tythe of garden produce (fruit, herbs, &c).

2d. for every day's math of Hay, in lieu
of all tythe-hay.

2½d. for each milch cow, in lieu of tythe
of milk.

2d. for every barren cow of the preceding
year.

4d. for every colt ;—and

2d. from every farm house, in lieu of tythe
of eggs.

N. B. May 19, 1808, the verdict establishing the above moduses, was confirmed by a
decree of the Court of Exchequer."

Within the township of Crasswall, in this parish, Roger de
Lacy founded a religious house for the maintenance of ten chaplains

and three priests, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. The endowment is thus given by Dugdale, in the *Monasticon*:—
 “Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego, Walterus de Laci dedi et concessi et hâc meâ presenti cartâ confirmavi Deo et domui beate Marie de Crassewell et priori ordinis Grandimontensis, et decem fratribus capellanis, ibidem perpetuò residentibus et Deo servientibus, et tribus fratribus clericis, pro salute anime mee, et uxoris meæ Margarete, et pro animâ Gilberti de Laci filii mei, et antecessorum et successorum suorum, ducentas et quatuor acras terre in bosco meo de Hammâ (Hom-Lacy) cum omnibus pertinentibus suis, sicut eisdem plenius et melius divide sunt et perambulate per visum legalium virorum, viz totam terram quæ extenditur in longitudine de Ferneleg (Hereford), usque le Ebrok, per viam quæ dicitur Rugeweye et in latitudine de Rugeweye usque Hathenhale ex unâ parte terræ Petri Under-god, et de terrâ monalium de Acornebiri, usque ad terram domini Willielmi filii Warini, sicut via magna dictas terras dividit; et totam terram quæ jacet inter terram dicti Willielmi filii Warini in longitudine, et Lidehate versus Boleston; et in latitudine de viâ quæ ducit versus Acornbirie usque domum Johannis Strech, &c. &c. tenend: et habend: in perpet: &c. &c.

Testibus, DOMINO SYMONE DE CLIFFORD,
 DOMINO WALTERO DE BASKERVILLE,
 WILLIELMO TREGOZ, et multis aliis.”*

This and other donations were confirmed by Henry III. in the 15th year of his reign, by a charter reciting the “ducentas et quatuor acras terre in bosco de Homme cum omnibus pertinentibus

A. D.
 1231.

* Dugdale's *Monasticon*, vol. 3, fol. 17.

suis, &c. et communem pasturam per totas forestas suas de Ewyas ad proprium equicium eorum cum equicio ipsius Walteri (the founder), et usuagium in predictis locis et forestis ad edificandos domos suos et ad omnia domui necessaria, et nonam gerbam frumenti, mestilonis, siliginis, et omnis generis bladi preterquam avene, per omnia maneria sua in Angliâ et Walliâ, viz in com: Hereford, de Wybelle (Weobley), Malmeshull (Mansel Lacy), Yarthul et Hamme, &c. &c.” also, “decimas omnium coriorum averiorum, quæ per annum necantur ad larderium suum de castello de Ewyas, &c. et pro decimo denario redditûs sui de Ewyas, nonam garbam omnis generis bladi de omnibus dominicis suis de Ewyas, de villâ Walteri de Rubro-castello et de Novavillâ—et unum hominem (i. e. the services of one man) in Ewyas viz. Ricardum filium Athe; unum hominem in Webbel, scilicet Willielmum Pincune, et unum hominem in Ludelawe, scilicet, Stephanum Saponarium, cum terris et tenementis eorum que possedebant die quo idem Walterus dictos homines dictis fratribus dedit, cum heredibus suis et cum omni sequelâ eorum.”

Another charter of Henry III. rendered these “fratres Grandimontenses et homines quieti de tallagio, pontagio, thelonio, passagio, vinagio, fossagio, exercitu, misericordiâ et omni consuetudine, et de omnibus rebus et occasionibus ad nos (the king) pertinentibus.”

Several other donations and privileges were also conferred on this house; amongst these, Isabel, formerly the wife of Gilbert de Lacy “confirmationem fecit de molendino *fullonario* de Ewyas, et uno burgagio et octo acris terre ad dictum molendinum

pertinentibus, et de housebote et haybote ad reparationem molen-
dini predicti."

Theobald Vernon gave land which he bought "in honore de Ewyas" of Griffin ap Taudrek, and which land was situated in Bleynduweleys. Hugh de Kynardesley gave "unam summam frumenti." Roger de Crasswall gave the same, to be paid yearly at Wynferton, on the feast of St. Michael. Hugh de Bradwardyne "passator," son of Stephen Ponce, gave a free passage over the Wye there. Roger de Clifford gave the same in the manor of Bruges (Bridge), payable on St. Michael's day. Robert, son of Sybil de Ewyas, gave the same in the manor of Ewyas-Harold."

Walter "Gardenarius" de Hamme gave one pound and an half of wax to be delivered at Crasswall on the feast of assumption. Henricus "Trottarius," of Hereford, sold to the prior and house of Crasswall, one messuage, and sixty one acres of land in Hamme before mentioned.

In the year 1256, a part of the two hundred and four acres situated in the wood of Hamme, was attempted to be sold by the prior and house of Crasswell, to Peter (Aquablanca) bishop of Hereford, for the consideration of five hundred marks, as is thus recorded by Dugdale—"Carta Petri Episcopi Hereford: universis, presentes literas inspecturis et audituris, Petrus, miseratione divinâ Hereford: Ecclesie minister humilis, salutem in domino: Volumus et garantizamus quod si aliquis implacitet nos vel successores nostros (quod Deus avertat) super rebus quas emimus a priore et fratribus de Crassewalle in manerio de Hamme Laci, dictus prior vel fratres de Crassewalle et de ordine Grandimontensi, non teneantur nos aut successores nostros defendere et garantizare ultra summam quingentarum marcarum, quas a nobis receperunt

pro rebus supradictis.—Dat: apud Vascum in crastino beate Agathe, martyris, A. D. 1256.”

It seems probable, however, that this sale or bargain was not confirmed, as the same quantity of land is recited in a charter of confirmation by Edward III. as belonging to this house. The same king confirmed most of the other donations stated above.

In the reign of Edward IV. this house was seized by the crown, as an alien priory (being under that of Grandmont in Normandy), and being ascertained to be of the value of forty shillings, it was granted A. D. 1462, to “God’s-house College” (now Christ’s College), in the University of Cambridge. The revenues of priories alien (after deducting a small amount for their own support), were transmitted to the superior houses abroad; and this furnished a pretext to several of our monarchs to seize their landed property, and apply the rents to the public use, during the wars between England and France. Edward I. and Edward II. had recourse to these proceedings. Edward III. confiscated their estates, and let out the priories with all their lands and tenements during twenty-three years, when peace being concluded, he restored the whole. Richard II. also sequestered their property, and the principal monasteries abroad had the king’s license to sell their lands to other religious houses here, or to any persons purposing to endow others. Henry IV. showed some favour to the alien priories, but reserved to himself in time of war what they paid to foreign abbies in time of peace. In the reign of Henry V. they were all dissolved by act of parliament, and most of their estates vested in the crown. The grants of this and subsequent monarchs have since placed many of their estates in the hands of the nobility, or private persons, whilst others have been applied to

the royal endowments in Cambridge and Eton. The donation however of Crasswall, by Edward IV. to Christ Church College, in Cambridge, does not appear to have been confirmed; nor does Speed notice its value, or the date of its suppression. The site of the priory and the demesne lands, have had various possessors since that period, and they now belong to a family of the name of Smith, who are residents of Stoke, in the county of Salop.

This extensive parish contains several quarries of excellent stone and tile:—The name of one of these has been corrupted into *Money Farthing*; and it is so spelt in Taylor's map of the county: but the real denomination is *Monydd Fferry*, implying in the British language, a cold bleak hill, which strictly describes its situation.

PARISH OF CUSOP.

CUSOP is bounded on the north by Clifford, on the east by Dorston, on the south by the township of Crasswall, and on the west by the county of Brecon, from which it is divided by a small brook.

The name of this parish has been variously written, such as Ceushope, Caushope, Keusope, &c. but the etymology in the British language, from Ceu or Cau, *hollow*, and a second word implying *a hill*,* fully describes the situation of Cusop, it being placed in the hollow formed by mountains on the east and west sides, which unite towards the south.

* It is generally found that places having the adjunct of *Hope* to their names, are distinguished by an eminence in their vicinity.

The manor of Cusop anciently belonged to the Clanowe family, of whom Peter de Clavenogh (for so it was then spelt) had free warren here 8 Edward III.* Soon after that date, Henry ap Griffith was lord; he was succeeded by the Vaughans, of Moccas, Bredwardine, &c. from whom it passed to the Cornewall family, and is now held by Sir George Cornewall, of Moccas, bart. The descents, &c. of these families, will be given in the Collections for the parishes of Moccas and Bredwardine, where the Cornewalls now reside.

Cusop had formerly two castles; the one stood about 200 yards south-west from the church, and was probably used as a fortified residence; the other was situated on a very high eminence, about one mile east from the church, and seems to have been adapted to military purposes only. The first was called Cusop Castle; it was situated on the declivity of a hill, having the brook towards the west, and comprised an area of about one acre of land, in a circular form, which was surrounded by a single fosse and embankment, now remaining, and rendered doubly strong towards the brook: in the centre are quantities of loose stones, which are the only remains of the original mansion. The site of this castle belonged to the lords of the manor, but has been lately exchanged for other lands, and now belongs to Mr. Walter Watkins, who occupies Llydyadyway, the principal estate in this parish.

The second castle, or rather entrenchment (for there are no signs of mason work except round a spring), was anciently stiled, Llygad, signifying in the British language *an eye*, and referring to the great height of its situation, and its commanding prospects. It is

* Rot: Tur: 8 Edward III.

formed on a single hill, and embraces the whole summit, which is only fifty yards in diameter. This small area is defended, first by an embankment of earth thrown up almost perpendicularly about four yards; and next by a deep fosse, which towards the east presents on the inner side a solid wall of natural rock, bared by the clearing of the fosse, so as to expose an upright front of stone nearly eight feet in height, and having a gradual descent of about eight more to the bottom of the ditch. Large fragments are found detached from the rock in several places, and in the outer wall on the eastern side are the remains of stone work, built in a semicircular form round a spring of water. Ramifications, or lines, with ditches and embankments similar to those already described, are extended towards the town of Hay, which is one mile distant; and towards the north an adjoining field has been partially protected in the same manner, with less labour, but in greater extent. The declivity is very rapid on all sides except towards the well, where the works have additional strength. Most of the entrenchments in the county are larger than this of Llygad (or as it has lately been called *Mouse Castle*), but few, if any, are stronger. Even in its present state, with the addition of briars, thorns, and coppice wood, which cover the summit, not only access is rendered difficult, but close observation and accurate measurement almost precluded. The original inhabitants have long been succeeded by a colony of rabbits, which even the fastnesses of the place, and the fissures of the rocks, cannot altogether secure from the ingenuity of man.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Cusop is a rectory, anciently in the patronage of the Prior and Convent of Llanthony; it was sold *inter alia*, at the suppression of religious houses by Henry VIII. to Nicholas Arnold, esq. from whose family it was purchased by Edmund Harley, esq. and thus descended to the present patron Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford and Mortimer. The annual value is about one hundred pounds.

PATRONS.	A. D.	RECTORS.
Abbot of Llanthony - - -	1290 - -	David de Merchynt.
The same - - -	1300 - -	John Wroth.
The same - - -	1316 - -	Vincent Wroth.
The same - - -	— - -	Reginald Lane.
The same - - -	1421 - -	Richard Walsh.
The same - - -	1430 - -	David ap Griffith.
The same - - -	1449 - -	Llewelyn Jones.
The same - - -	— - -	— Ap Thomas.
The same - - -	1505 - -	William Harbord.
Sir Nicholas Arnold, knt. -	1563 - -	David Jenkins.
— Arnold - - -	— - -	John Rawlins.
John Arnold, esq. - - -	1687 - -	Henry Rogers.
Nicholas Arnold, esq. - -	1709 - -	David Williams.
Edmund Harley, esq. - - -	1731 - -	Henry Gwilym.
Edward, Earl of Oxford - -	1745 - -	Walter Vaughan.
Sir Francis Charlton, bart. & Sir Francis Dashwood, bart. trustees of Edward, Earl of Oxford - - -	1754 - -	Edward Edwards.
Earl of Oxford - - -		
Earl of Oxford - - -	1804 - -	Edward Hamley.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is situated in a pleasant vale extending from north to south. It consists of a nave, chancel (paved by the present rector), and large porch,

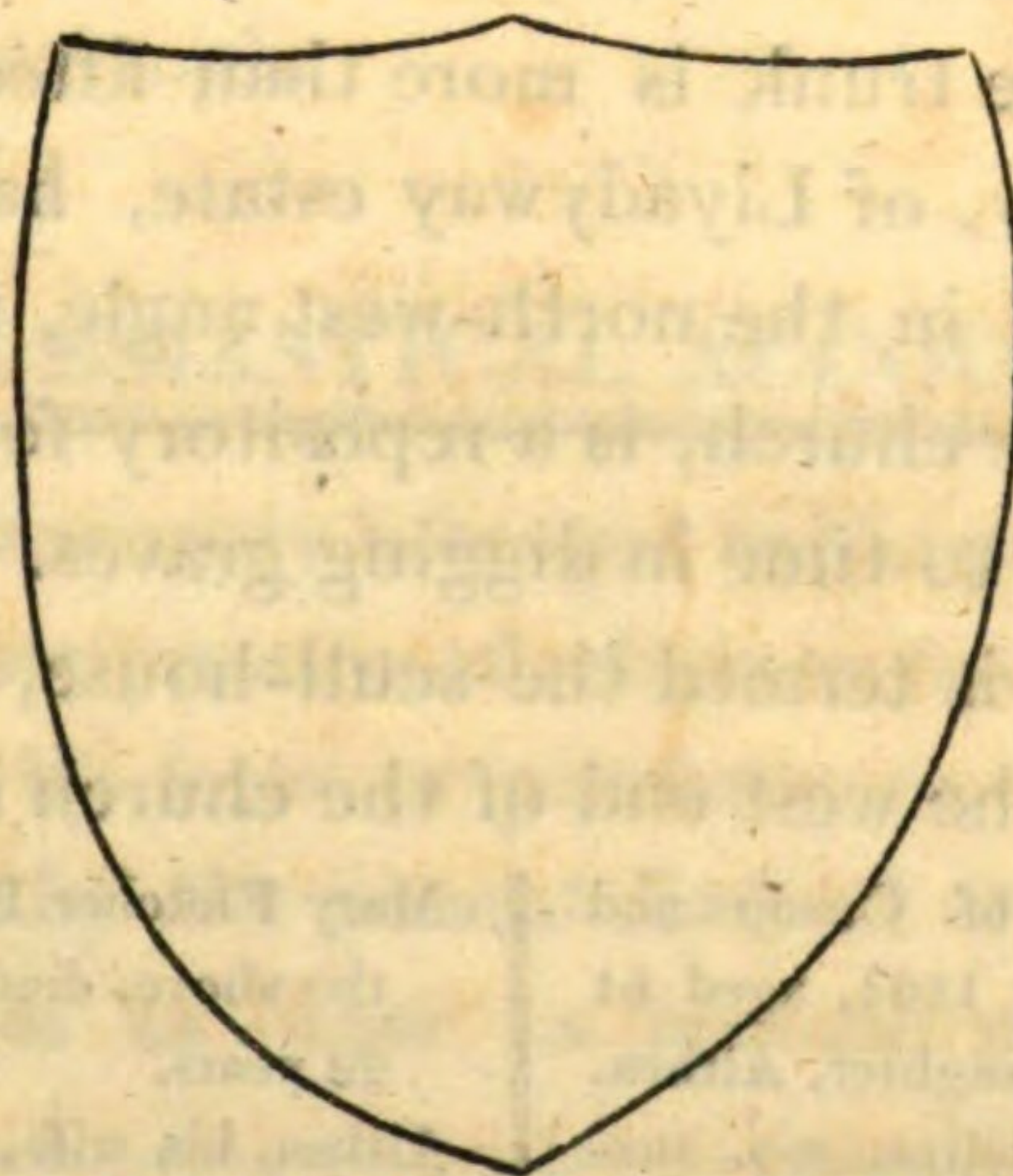
having in a loft or cupola over it, two small bells thus inscribed; “ Lewis Watkins, Philip David, 1670, wardens.” The nave and chancel communicate under a plain semicircular arch, and at the western end of the church is an ancient stone font, having a cavity nearly two feet in diameter, and one foot in depth, slightly narrowing towards the bottom. The outside is carved in ribs intersecting each other so as to form net-work, or small lozenges. The windows are small and of the lancet form: the altar is placed on an elevation of eighteen inches above the pavement of the church, and within the communion rails are these inscriptions, on flat stones:—

James Butler, gent. died Oct. 31, 1711, aged 69.

Thomas Gunter, died March 4, 1711, aged 37.

The following is inscribed on an escutcheon affixed to the south wall of the church:—

The
Coat Armour
of Sir Thomas
Duppa, knight; he
was eldest son of Thomas
Duppa, Lord Archbishop of
Canterbury, and father of Robert



Duppa of
Robert Dup-
Baldwin Duppa,
bourn Court, in the
Robert Duppa was
Richard Lewis
both in the coun-
Gentlemen.
ancient paternal
families

Castle Town.
pa's son, was
esq. of Hollin-
County of Kent.
Grandfather to
of Broad Meadow,
ty of Hereford,
Drawn by the
arms of the
aforesaid.

Richard Lewis departed this life, Jan. 25, 1772, aged 78 years.

Within the inscription are the arms of Duppa and Lewis, viz. *azure*, a lion's gamb erased in fesse, between two chains barways *or*. In a canton *or*, a cinquefoil *gules*, Duppa; impaled with *sable*, a cross chequy *or* and *gules*, Lewis.

N. B. The estate of Castleton is situated in the adjoining parish of Clifford: Broadmeadow is principally in the same, but part of the lands extend into Cusop.

North Wall.

John Watkins, of Broadmeadow, gent. died
May 7, 1762, aged 80.

Mary, his wife, died June 27, 1752, aged
70.

South Wall.

James Butler, gent. gave 6s. per annum,
charged on a tenement in the occupation
of William Harry, to the poor of this
parish.

In the churchyard, two venerable yew trees of more than ordinary dimensions stand towards the south side, and two others corresponding towards the north, thus forming a square. The branches of that which stands in the south-west angle (and which is least mutilated), extend over a circular area measuring seventeen yards in diameter. The girth of the trunk, at four feet from the ground, before any branches are thrown out, and where it is free from any unusual excrescence, measures twenty feet; the smallest circumference of the trunk is more than fifteen feet. Several of the Watkins's family, of Llyadyway estate, have been interred in the churchyard, and in the north-west angle, formed by the walls of the porch and the church, is a repository for the human bones, disturbed from time to time in digging graves. It is inclosed by a low stone wall, and is termed the scull-house, or Golgotha. An altar monument at the west end of the church is thus inscribed:—

Edward Edwards, rector of Cusop and
Whitney, died April 11, 1804, aged 81
years, leaving issue one daughter, Althea,
who married Thomas Philips, esq. sur-
geon of artillery, at Bengal.

Mary Fletcher Edwards, eldest daughter of
the above, died December 4, 1790, aged
22 years.

Althea, his wife, died July 27, 1775, aged
46.

PARISH OF LLANCILLO.

LLANCILLO is bounded on the south and on the east by the river Munnow, which is here the boundary between this county and Monmouthshire; it is also bounded on the north by Rowlston, and on the west by Walterston.

The name of this small parish is derived from the British words *Llan-cil*, which literally signify the church in the angle or corner, and describe its situation at the junction of two hills. It anciently formed part of the great manor of Ewyas Lacy, and was leased to the Scudamores, of Kentchurch and Rowlston, at a nominal rent. This payment has long been discontinued, and the manor is now vested in that family, and is held by their service as judges in the county court, by suit and doom.* An iron forge was worked here during several centuries, but has lately been destroyed. The descent of the manor of Ewyas Lacy has been already given, and the pedigree, &c. of the Scudamores are reserved for the Collections in the parish of Kentchurch.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

Llancillo rectory anciently belonged to the priory of Llanthony, and was sold at the suppression of religious houses to the Arnolds, from whom it came, by lease or purchase, to the Harley family. The tithes were sold by the present Earl of Oxford to such proprietors of the lands as chose to become purchasers, and the

* MS. Silas Taylor.—Harl. MSS.

residue were bought by George Cornewall, esq. son of Sir George Cornewall, of Moccas Court, bart. The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and is situated in the angle of a sequestered vale, opening towards the river Munnow on the south. It is a small building, comprising a nave and chancel, with a wooden cupola, containing two small bells : between the church and chancel are some remains of the ancient rood loft.

Inscriptions on a Flat Stone in the Chancel.

Jane, the wife of James Scudamore, gent.
died October 24, 1681, aged 52.

On Flat Stones in the Church.

Walter Scudamore, died A. D. 1712.

Magdalene Scudamore, died Dec. 13, 1728.

In the Churchyard.

Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Scudamore, gent.
was buried Oct. 22, 1653.

Thomas Scudamore, died June 7, A. D.
1695.

Thomas Scudamore, gent. died December 4,
1695.

James Scudamore, gent. died July 11, 1659.

John Scudamore, died June 11, 1712, aged
81.

Blanch, wife of James Price, died October 1,
1714.

Several of the Gilbert family have also been interred in the churchyard ; and on the south side are the remains of a stone cross, the base of which was eight feet square, with three steps, and a square stone in which the shaft was inserted.

PARISH OF ST. MARGARET.

ST. MARGARET's is bounded on the north by Turnaston, on the east and south by Dore-Abbey (or Abbey-Dore), both in the hundred of Webtree ; and on the west by Michaelchurch Escle.

The whole of this parish (excepting the township of Newton), is situated in the great manor of Ewyas Lacy, which has been already traced to the possession of the Earl of Abergavenny, and Mr. Jefferies's family : of the latter, Walter Jefferies, of Breck-

nock, esq. died in October, 1811, and was succeeded in this and other landed property, by his heirs at law, the descendants of his two aunts; of which aunts, one was married to the late John Wilkins, of Brecon, esq. who is succeeded by his eldest son, the present Thomas Wilkins, esq.: the other aunt married David Morgan, of Presteign, esq. and has issue three daughters, now living.

A principal estate, called The Court, has been in possession of a respectable family of the name of Prosser, during many generations.

The manor of Newton formed part of the possessions of the abbey of Llanthony, and at the dissolution of religious houses by Henry VIII. it was sold *inter alia*, to Nicholas Arnold, esq. from whose family it passed to the Harleys, and thus descended to the present Earl of Oxford, &c. &c.

In the will of Blanch Parry, one of the gentlewomen of Queen Elizabeth's privy chamber, dated June 21, 1589—*inter alia*, are the following provisions:—

“*Item*, I will that my Executors shall bestow the sum of £.500 in purchasing lands, which shall be worth £.10 by the year, and to build a convenient Almshouse for four poor people, to be chosen from time to time within the parish of Bacton, in the county of Hereford, of the eldest and poorest within the said parish, whether they be men or women; there to be relieved, of the profits of the said lands for ever.—And the said Almshouse to be builded as near to the parish church of Bacton aforesaid, as the lands may be provided for that purpose: which said Almshouse I will, shall be founded as law will allow, at the charge of my Executors.”

In the third codicil to the said will, dated December 2, 1589:—

“Whereas, by my will I have appointed £.500, or thereabouts, to be bestowed for the building of an Almshouse in Bacton, in the county of Hereford, and for the providing of £.10 land yearly, or thereabouts for the same.—I do now, in lieu thereof (for that I cannot provide land in Bacton aforesaid, for building the said house), assign and appoint, and will, that my Executors shall purchase so much land as shall yield, above all charges yearly, for ever, the number of seven score bushels of corn, viz. wheat and rye, to be bestowed and distributed yearly amongst the poor people of Bacton aforesaid, and Newton, in the said county, for ever—And that the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, shall, from time to time, have the oversight of the bestowing and distributing of the said corn: which said corn I will, my Executors shall provide, in form aforesaid, with as much speed as conveniently may be.”

This charity continues to be administered ; but the distribution of late years has been made in money, instead of corn, and in some instances has been extended to the poor of the whole parish of St. Margaret's ; which are regulations not strictly conformable to the will of the donor.

In this and the adjoining parishes are situated three tracts of uninclosed land, called the Mescotts. The proper name is *Maisy Coed*, which in the British language signifies, “ the field or area in (or surrounded by) the wood : ” a description altogether applicable formerly, and partially so at this time.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

St. Margaret's is a curacy ; the tithes having been appropriated to the Abbot and Convent of Llanthony, and sold at their suppression, to the Arnolds, who alienated them to the Harley family, of whom the present Earl of Oxford, sold a part to the proprietors of the several estates, and the residue to George Cornewall, esq. son of Sir George Cornewall, bart. of Moccas Court. The church stands on a pleasant eminence, commanding a view of the vale of Dore towards the south-east, and the Welsh mountains on the south-west. It is an old building, comprising a nave and chancel, with three bells suspended on wooden frame-work erected at the west end, and carried to a cupola above the roof. The church and chancel communicate under a plain semicircular arch ; but the greatest, if not the only object of observation and description, is the rood loft, or gallery, which is little impaired, and still exhibits much of its original decoration. This building was erected, as usual, over the communication between the church and chancel.

It is supported on light wooden pillars and extends across the whole nave, fronting the church. Four borders of fret work, or raised carving, distinguish the bottom, and two borders of similar workmanship, decorate the top: Fruit, particularly grapes with the beautiful foliage of the vine, and flowers, amongst which roses are most frequent, are the prevailing subjects of the carving. The effect of the whole is increased by gilding, and by painting in various colours; and much lightness has been introduced by removing the wood underneath the carving, and thus almost giving it the appearance of transparency. The two pillars in front are richly decorated in this manner, and at the height of six feet from the ground, a small base projects from each of them, on which was placed the effigies of a saint, or other religious, about twelve inches in height, under a rich Gothic canopy, now remaining in nearly its original state. The approach was, as usual, by a stone stair case, leading from the chancel. Much decoration has also been bestowed on the under part of the floor of this loft, which forms a segment of a circle, and is disposed in square pannels of brown oak, having human heads, crosses, roses, foliage, and other devices at the several angles where the ribs intersect each other: two borders similar to those before described, are also repeated here. Few churches in England can probably, at this time, show better specimens of the ancient rood loft, than this now described, and another at Burghill, in the hundred of Grimsworth, which closely resembles this. An engraving of the latter is given in the Collections for that parish.

At the entrance into the chancel is suspended a table of "The Duty of Churchwardens:" it is printed in two columns, the one in English, the other in the British language.

The only sepulchral memorials within the church are the following, on flat stones within the rails of the altar :—

Reliquiæ Humphredi Prosser, de Sanctâ Margaretâ, generosi, &c. &c. Obiit 22 Dec: 1781, ætat: suæ 87.	Rev. William Wetherstone, rector of Knill, died April 25, 1768, aged 64.
Eleanor, wife of the above, and sister of the Rev. William Wetherstone, <i>adjacent</i> , died Nov. 1, 1779, aged 71.	John Walters, died Oct. 4, A. D. 1719.
	Samuel Walters, died June 16, 1801, aged 96.

The church is ceiled with brown oak, which has been cruelly whitewashed. In the church-yard are seven altar monuments over the Prosser family, who, as before noticed, have been proprietors of a principal estate here during several generations.

PARISH OF MICHAELCHURCH ESCLE.

MICHAELCHURCH ESCLE is bounded on the east by St. Margaret's, on the south by Clodock, on the west by the Brecknockshire mountains, and on the north by Peterchurch.

This parish was anciently named in the British language, *Llanvihangle*, with the adjunct of *Escle* (from the brook of that name), to distinguish it from Llanvihangle-Crucorne, in the county of Monmouth. The modern name is nearly a literal translation of the British words, which signify, the church dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel.

The whole parish is included in the great manor of Ewyas Lacy, and has passed with the other members of it, as already detailed in Clodock, &c. to the Earl of Abergavenny and Mr. Jefferies. On the death of the latter, in October, 1811, he was succeeded in this property by his heirs at law, as detailed in the parish of St. Margaret's.

The principal estate in the parish belonged during several generations to the Thomas family, of whom Edmund Thomas, esq. left it to his relative John Lewis, esq. who dying A. D. 1802, was succeeded by his son, Thomas Edmund Lewis, esq. the present proprietor.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The tithes of Michaelchurch were given by the Lacy family to the Abbey of Llanthony; on the dissolution of religious houses, they were purchased by the Arnold family, from whom they came to the Harleys, and some of them were sold by the present Earl of Oxford, to the proprietors of the estates, and the residue to George Cornwall, esq. son of Sir George Cornwall, of Moccas, bart.

The church, as the name implies, is dedicated to St. Michael, and comprises a nave, chancel, and tower, with five bells. The carved work of the ancient rood loft remains in front of the gallery, at the west end of the church. The ceiling is handsomely wainscoated with pannels of brown oak, in a semicircular form; it is ribbed with the same material as far as the church extends, but is less ornamented over the chancel.

INSCRIPTIONS.

North Wall of the Chancel.

Humphrey Thomas, esq. died A. D. 1732,
aged 67.

Sybil, relict of John Miles, of Peterchurch,
died A. D. 1732.

Jane, relict of Richard Campion, of London,
gent. died Dec. 8, 1744, aged 44.

On Flat Stones in the Chancel.

Edmund Thomas, esq. died Dec. 8, 1757,
aged 63.

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Elizabeth, his relict, died Feb. 5, 1770,
aged 81.

East Wall of the Chancel.

Thomas Price, of Whitehouse, died Jan. 31,
1788, aged 75 years.

Sarah, his wife, died Dec. 25, 1786, aged 81.

Within the Communion Rails.

Sarah, daughter of William Exton, by Sarah
his wife, died May 22, 1747, aged 61.

M. P. 1683. A. L. 1721.

Q q

Thos. Miles, Jan. 17, 1730, aged 11.

(Near the Rails)—M. B. 1763.

South Wall.

Thomas Beavan, gent. died Dec. 12, 1785, aged 77.

Margaret, his wife, Oct. 12, 1703, aged 58.

Martha, their daughter, died Jan. 17, 1756.

Flat Stones in the Chancel.

Ann, daughter of — Perot, died Jan. 3.

Another of that name, August, 1693.

Edward Prosser, of Crasswall, died April 1, 1806, aged 88.

Diana, his wife, died March 14, 1806, aged 77.

John Lewis, gent. died Jan. 3, 1795, aged 86.

E. R. 1765.

Thomas Rogers, died Jan. 3, 1732.

M. Rogers, died Oct. 28, 1741.

John Rogers, died March 17, 1805, aged 70.

North Wall of the Church.

Samuel Harris, blacksmith, died April 27, 1757, aged 41.

My sledge and hammer lie reclin'd,

My bellows too have lost their wind;

My fire's extinct, my forge decayed,

And in the dirt my vice is laid;

My coal is spent, my iron gone,

My nails are drove—my work is done.

South Wall.

Walter Morgan, died August 19, 1796, aged 25.

Henry, his father, died May 23, 1798, aged 62.

On a Flat Stone in the Nave.

Samuel Harris, died Jan. 17, 1737, aged 27.

S. H.

PARISH OF ROWLSTON.

ROWLSTON is bounded on the south-west by Llancillo, on the west by Clodock, on the north by Dulas, and on the south-east by Kentchurch, both in the hundred of Webtree.

The name of this parish is a contraction of Rowland's-town, and probably refers to a distinguished character in the Scudamore family having property here, and bearing that Christian name.

This parish anciently formed part of the great manor of Ewyas Lacy, but was leased or sold at an early date to a branch of the Scudamore family, of Kentchurch, who occasionally resided here, until the middle of the last century, when the two properties became united in the Rowlston branch, who transferred their residence to Kentchurch. The descent, &c. of this most ancient and

honourable family, are reserved for the Collections in that parish and Hom Lacy ; but a copy of a deed of some curiosity, still preserved amongst the archives at Kentchurch, is inserted here, as more particularly relating to Rowlston.—“ Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego, Johannes Dansey de Webton, filius et hæres Katherinæ filiæ Johannis Eylsefforde, militis, concessi Ricardo Skydemore, fratri et hæredi Thomæ Skydemore, armigeri, nuper de Roleston, &c. Johannem ap Hisskoc, alias dictum Johannem Wayte ***** cum meum de sanguine, cum totâ sequelâ suâ procreatâ vel procreandâ ac omnibus bonis suis et catallis, habend: eidem Ricardo Skydemore, hæredibus et assignatis suis in perpetuum. Et ego vero predictus Johannes Dansey et hæredes mei predictum Johannem ap Hisskoc alias dictum Johannem Wayte, cum totâ sequelâ suâ procreatâ et procreandâ prefato Ricardo Skydemore, hæredibus et assignatis suis, contra omnes gentes warrantizabimus et defenderimus in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium, huic presenti cartæ sigillum meum apposui. Datum decimo octavo die mensis Novemb: anno regni regis Henrici Sexti, post conquestum tricesimo quinto.”

A. D.
1457.

The family mansion stood near the church, but no traces of it are now visible.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The tithes of Rowlston were given by the Lacy family to the Abbey of Llanthony, at the suppression of which, they were granted to the Arnolds, who sold or leased them to the Harley family, of whom the present Earl of Oxford, disposed of part to the proprietors of the respective estates, and the remainder to

George Cornewall, esq. son of Sir George Cornewall, of Moccas Court, bart.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a substantial building, and comprises a nave, chancel, and tower, with three bells. Near the south door is the square base of a stone cross, consisting of four steps, the lowest of which measures twelve feet in length and eighteen inches in breadth, on each side of the square: the top of the shaft has been superseded by a dial. The entrance, through a porch ceiled with oak pannels neatly ribbed, is under a Saxon arch, over which in an oval medallion beaded round, is an uncouth representation of the tutelary saint, who is sitting, with a bible on the left knee, and the right arm raised to a cross behind the head. The medallion is supported by two other figures, not less rude than that in the centre. The pillars which support the arch are small and circular; the capitals are ornamented with well-executed twig-work, foliage, and other Saxon decorations. The church and chancel communicate under a larger arch of similar workmanship, but further adorned with human figures, birds, and beasts: two of the human figures about ten inches in height, are carved in the capitals on each side, but the position of those on the right hand in approaching, seems to have been reversed, as they are placed on their heads. The wall is three feet in thickness between the church and chancel, each of which are ceiled with brown oak, similar to the porch. A stone stair-case in the north wall of the chancel formerly led to the rood loft, some remains of which have been transferred to the front of the gallery, and are distinguished by the delicate carving of fruit and foliage, usually bestowed on that building.—In an angle of the church, under the gallery, is a large collection of human bones;

and the following inscriptions appear on flat stones in the chancel:—

Ann, daughter of John Williams *** **
Edward Valentine, died May 23, 1800, aged
67.

Ann, his wife, died March 1, 1802, aged 65.

South Wall.

Walter Price, died Feb. 24, 1780, aged 54.

Elizabeth, his daughter, died Nov. 22, 1781,
aged 22.

East Wall.

Ann, daughter of John Williams, died an
infant, A. D. 1792.

John, her brother, died A. D. 1805.

On Flat Stones in the Nave.

John Morgan, of Dulas, died Nov. 2, 1711.

Abraham Morgan, died April 3, *** **

No sepulchral memorial is observable over the Scudamore family, but the following entries are copied from the parish register:—

John, the son of Mr. Richard Scudamore,
by Joan, his wife, was baptized Oct. 30,
1727.

Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. R. S. was buried
Oct. 7, 1728.

Ann, daughter of Mr. R. S. was baptized
Nov. 26, 1728.

Margaret, daughter of Mr. R. S. was bap-
tized May 18, 1730.

Richard, the son of Mr. R. S. was baptized
April 8, 1731.

Margaret, daughter of Mr. R. S. was buried
Dec. 26—(No year inserted).

Walter, son of Mr. R. S. was baptized Jan.
20, and buried 27th—(No year inserted).

Dorothy, daughter of Mr. R. S. was bap-
tized Jan. 20, 1732—3.

Walter, son of Mr. R. S. was baptized Jan.
17, 1734—5.

Joan, wife of Mr. R. S. was buried Dec. 28,
1735.

Mr. R. S. was buried Dec. 24, 1741.

PARISH OF WALTERSTON.

WALTERSTON is bounded on the north by Clodock, on the east by Llancillo, on the south by the river Munnow, and on the west by Oldcastle, in the county of Monmouth.

Walterston (*i. e.* Walter's town), derives its name from Walter de Lacy, who held it soon after the Norman conquest, together with large possessions in this hundred, as already detailed in the

respective parishes:—in the British language it is called *Tre-Walter*.

Walterston is a component part of the great manor of Ewyas Lacy, which was held after the Lacys by the Verdon family;* of whom Theobald possessed it at the close of the thirteenth century: and John who succeeded him, “was arraigned for treason and divers misdemeanours, at Bergavanny, before the king and council, and on full hearing, had judgement to be committed to prison, and to forfeit all his royalties in the lands of Ewyas Lacy. But the king, taking into consideration the good services of his ancestors, done to himself and his progenitors, and because he acknowledged his offence and submitted himself, granted, that after his death, his heirs should again enjoy those privileges, and for 500 marks fine, released him from imprisonment.”† The further descent of the manor of Ewyas Lacy has been traced in the parish of Clodock, &c. to the present Earl of Abergavenny, and the heirs of the late Walter Jefferies, of Brecknock, esq.

In this parish is situated ALTERYNNIS, the ancient seat of the Cecil family: the name of the mansion and estate, is derived, as usual in this part of the county, from the British language; in which the word *Allt*, signifies a grove on the side of a hill, and the word *Ynys*, implies a fertile tract of land below it: thus the etymology of the name affords a just description of the property.

The family of Cecil is of illustrious origin, and great antiquity. The name has undergone various alterations in its orthography.—At an early date it was written Sitsylt, afterwards Sicelt, Seycil, Seisel, Cicil,‡ and at length Cecil.

* See page 268.

† Dugd. Baron. vol. 1, f. 473.

‡ Camden's Remains.

In the year 1015, Llewelyn ap Sitsylt (*i. e.* the son of Sitsylt), raised a great army against Aedan, who had obtained by force the principality of North Wales, and slew him, with his four sons, in battle. This Llewelyn was descended from the kings of Wales, by his mother's side, whose name was Trawst: she was daughter of Elise, second son of Anarawd, who was eldest son of Roderick the Great, who reigned over all Wales, from A. D. 843, to 876.—With this success, and these pretensions, Llewelyn assumed the name and authority of King of Wales, and according to Dr. Powell,* under his governance all things prospered in the land:—“the earth brought forth double to the time before passed; the people prospered in all their affaires, and multiplied wonderfullie, the cattel increased in great number, so that there was neither begger nor poore man, from the south to the north sea, but everie man had plentie, everie house a dweller, and everie towne inhabitants.” Notwithstanding this glowing picture of Llewelyn's reign, he had to contend against two formidable chieftains, but subdued them both. In the following year he was himself slain, and left issue one son Gryffyth, who after vanquishing Jago ap Edwal, in 1037, governed Wales during thirty four years, “valiantlie and worthilie: he never fought but he bare awaie the victorie: he was gentle to his subjects and cruell to his foes, looved of the one and feared of the other: liberall to strangers, costlie in apparell and princelie in all his doings, and unworthie of that cruell death, that the ambitious desire of rule did provoke his unkind subjects and unnatural cosens, to prepare for so noble a prince and so gentle a master.”†

A. D.
1021.

1054.

* Powell's History of Wales.

† He was beheaded by his subjects, and his head conveyed to Harold.—*Powell's Hist.*

Humphrey Lloyd records, that “ A. D. 1079, Urogeney ap Sitsylt, a nobleman of Wales, was slain by the sons of Rees Says, (*i. e.* the Saxon, or Englishman), for so they named all such as had served in England, and could speak the English language.”

In the year 1091, in consequence of various disputes between the chieftains of Wales, application for succour was made by one of the parties to Robert Fitzhamon, a knight of the privy chamber to William Rufus. The succour afforded, consisted of Robert Fitzhamon, eleven other knights, many gentlemen, and a competent force in soldiery. Their success was complete, and the whole lordship of Glamorgan, with all its members, castles, and manors, were, in the result, seized by the auxiliaries, and divided amongst them. Robert Sitsylt, a descendant of that family, now excluded from the throne, was one of those who joined Fitzhamon in the expedition. He was rewarded with a portion of the conquered lands, and afterwards married the heiress of Alteryannis, by whom he acquired that property, together with large possessions in the county of Gloucester.* He had issue Sir James Sitsylt, baron of Beauport (since Beaupere), in Glamorganshire. He joined the Empress Maud against King Stephen, and was slain at the siege of the castle of Wallingford, A. D. 1139, having then on him a vesture, with his arms wrought in needle work, as formerly seen on the tomb of Gerald Sitsylt, in the Abbey of Dore, viz.—barry of ten, *argent* and *azure*; over all, six escutcheons, 3, 2 and 1 *sable*, each charged with a lion rampant of the field.

A. D.
1139.

James was succeeded by his son, John Sitsylt, who, after the death of his father, engaged in the same wars with Roger Earl of

* Barnes's History of Edward III.

Hereford, and Constable of England. He was taken prisoner at the siege of Lincoln, A. D. 1141, and was obliged to sell his lordship of Beauport, and also his lands in Gloucestershire, to raise the sum of four hundred marks, which he paid for his ransom. He married Maud, daughter of ——— de Frene, of Moccas, in this county, and had issue, Eustace, who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Walter Pembridge, knt. and had issue, two sons, Baldwin and John, and four daughters, one of whom was wife of Sir Thomas Fitzneale. Sir Baldwin was knighted by Henry II. and had issue by his first wife, who was daughter of Maurice de Brompton, five sons and two daughters, viz. Gerald, Eustace, Henry, John, Walter, Catherine, who married Hugh ap Meredith Muredake, and Eleanor, who married Walter Wallis.* By his second wife, Margery, daughter of Sir Stephen Radnor, knt. Baldwin had also issue four sons, Stephen, Roger, Hugh, and David, and three daughters, of whom Mawde, the eldest, was a nun; Joan, the second, married John de Solers, and Ann, the third daughter, married Owen ap Meredyth. Baldwin gave lands, now called Kingston Grange,† together with freedom of common and pasture in his woods, &c. and other privileges, to the abbey of Dore. He joined with Henry II. in his wars against the Welsh, and was slain at the siege of the castle of Cardiff.

Gerald, his eldest son succeeded, and married Mabel, daughter of Sir William Moigne, knt. and had issue three sons and three daughters: 1. Gerald, who died an infant; 2. Robert, who married and had children; 3. Owen, who became a monk in the abbey of Dore; Catherine, who was first the wife of Sir Griffin ap

* Powell's Cambria.
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† In the parishes of Kingston and Dore.
R r

Yoreford, next the wife of David ap Evan, and lastly the wife of Geffrey, son of Sir Walter Bret, knt. Ann, the second daughter of Gerald Sitsylt, was wedded to Robert, son of Richard Bromwich: and Ellen, the third daughter was wife of John, who according to Dr. Powell, was father of Sir John Abrahah, knt. but, according to other authorities,* was son of Sir Richard Abrahah, knt. Robert, son of Gerald, succeeded his father, and married Alice, daughter of Sir Robert Tregoz, knt. by whom he had issue four sons, viz. 1. James, 2. Gerald, 3. Thomas, and 4. Baldwyn; also two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth.

James, the eldest son succeeded, and married Isabel, daughter of Sir John Knell, knt. and had issue, James and Gerald, twin-born (of whom the first died an infant), 3. Robert, and 4. John; also five daughters, viz. Alice, wife of Walter Monnington; Grace, wife of Roger, son of William Blount; Eleanor, wife of Thomas Payne; Margery, wife of Morgan ap Meredith, and Cecilie, first the wife of Howel ap Blethyn, and afterwards that of Sir Hugh Brugge, knt.

Gerald, the eldest surviving son succeeded; he married four wives, viz. Margaret, daughter of Stephen De la Bere, by whom he had one son, John; by his second wife, Bridget, widow of Sir Simon Ward, knt. he had one son, James; by his third wife, who was a daughter of Martin Hopton, he had issue, Martin, Henry, David, and Jane; lastly, by his fourth wife, Jane or Joan, daughter of Robert Emerton, he had issue one son, Stigand, who was slain at the siege of Strivelin, in Scotland, in the reign of Edward II. and had no issue, as was recorded in the register of the

* Collins's Peerage, vol. 3, p. 151.

abbey of Dore. Gerald, the father, was buried in that abbey, under a tomb erected in memory of him, and bearing the arms of his ancestor, Sir James Sitsylt, who was killed at the siege of Wallingford, as before noticed.

He was succeeded by John, his eldest son, who married Sybil, daughter of Robert de Ewyas, and had issue, Sir John, his heir, and George, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir Ralph Waldesley, knt. by whom he had a daughter, Joan, who married Sir Richard Baskerville: John had also one daughter, viz. Margaret, wife of Sir Robert Baskerville.

This Sir John married Alice, sister of Sir Roger Baskerville, and was engaged in the wars of Edward III. against Scotland. On that occasion, and in the year 1333, a great controversy arose between this Sir John Sitsylt, and Sir William Facknaham, each of whom claimed the right of wearing the arms, hitherto borne by the Cecils. An account of this contention is shortly given by Dr. Powell, in his History of Wales; and more fully by Boswell, in his "Concords of Armourie." The two accounts are here subjoined:—

"In the time of the warres that King Edward the Thirde made against Scotland, at a place called Halydon hill, neere Barwick, anno 6 Edward III.; there arose a great variance and contention betweene Sir William de Facknaham, knt. on the one side, approvant, and Sir John Sitsylt, knt. on the other side, defendant, for an ensigne of armes, that is to say—'The field of ten barrets silver and azure, supported of five scocheons sable, charged with so manie lions of the first, rampants incensed, geules'—which ensigne both the parties did claime as their right. But as both the parties put themselves to their force to maintaine their quarell, and vaunted to maintaine the same by their bodies; it pleased the King that justice should be yielded for triall of the quarell, without shedding of blood: and so the bearing of the ensigne was solemnly adjudged to be the right of Sir John Sitsylt, as heire of blood lineallie descended of the body of James Sitsylt, Lord of Beauport, slaine at the siege of Wallingford. The final order and determination of which controversie, is laid downe by John Boswell, gentleman, in his booke entitled 'The Concords of Armourie,' fol. 80." They are as follow—"C'est a tesmoigner a vous mes Seignours pur le determination final, del discention pur ung Ensigne d'Armes perenter Monsieur Jean de Sitsylt & Willyam Faknaham, chevaliers, que l'an

depuis le nestri de Dieu, mil cent quarante deux, Jacques Sitsylt & ses ancestors, seigneurs de Beauport, a la siège de la chateau de Wallingford, & vives et mortz illonques, & la leureont ung Ensigne tiel comme l'ensigne de leur sang genereux. C'est a dire en la champe de dize barretz d'argent & azure six escocheons sables, avec tantes de lyons rampant, primer incensed, gule, pere de Jehan Sitsilt, pere de Eustace, pere de Baldwine, pere de Gerard, pere de Robert, pere de Jaques, pere de George de Euerwike, pere de Jehan, pere de cestuy Jean Sitsilt, chevalier, heyer de sang et de corps de dit Jaques, seigneur de Beauport, linealment descendu par bon & loyal nestre, de que ligne let dit Willyam n'est my.—Et cest pur voier & bon droit tousiours ie serray prest de maintenir, a que fayer ie moi oblige par mon seau ci affige. Donne le quatre jour e Auril l'an del reigne du Roy Edward le tiers depuis le conquese Le Siz.”

At length this controversy was thus determined :—

“ A tous Angloys et Francoys, nous Edward de Beaulile & Jean de Mowbray, Gret: L'on grande debate & controuersie ad este parentre Jean de Sitsilt, chevlarier & William Faknaham, in le champe de Monte Holintonte, pur un ensigne d'Armes: c'est assavoir tiel, le champe de dize barrets argent & azure, supportez de cinque escocheons sables, charges ouesque tant de lions primers rampantz incensed gules que ambideux claimont come lour droict par longe & auntient descent a eux descendu. Et a mayntener leur quarrell per droit-riel ambideux les partyes ont eux mettre sur lour force, et vantont de cest maintenir per lour corps. Ci est que il au please a nostre liege seigneur le Roy que justice sera fait a ces hommes sans sange espandu, per voyer testmoignes & bon semblances. Accordant a que avions oye et voy moltes dites & lour escriptes, et le testmoygnes du Roy d'Armes & dauter lieges de Roy, que le droit le dit Jehan Sitsilt & bien forte maintenant le dit ensigne etre son droict, come le droict de son sang genereulx. Pur que fait cest nostre final dome, que Dieu, le Roy nostre liege & nous & le dit Jehan Sitsilt defend que james doresenavant le dit William ne soitcy hardy, chalanger, laymer, ou lever, in ascun chap le Roy, or sur ascun corse vive ou morte, in ascun leu deins les quatre mers le Roye, ou aillours par my tout Christiantye, les dites armes in Ensigne, pyghenoute, guydon, banyer, escocheon, targe, escu, manche, ou elme, sur payne de forfayture et perdet son espre tranchant et ses picques d'or a toutes jours. Donne la quarte jour de June, l'an del Roy Edward le tierce, depuis le conquest le sept.”

These proceedings were originally written on parchment, and “ were seen by me (says Boswell),* in possession of the R. H. the Lord of Burghly, to whom in blood the same belongeth, whose name being written at this day *Cecil*, is nevertheless in Wales, both in speech and common writing, used to be uttered *Sitsylt* or

* Boswell on Armoury, fol. 81.

Sitsyld, where the original house (Alterynnis), at this day (A. D. 1572), remaineth near Abervanny."

Sir John, having thus established his right to the coat in question, had a charge of men at arms, for the custody of the marches of Scotland, A. D. 1339*. He married Alice, sister of Sir Roger Baskerville, and Sir Roger married his sister. Sir John had issue, John and Roger; which John married Joan, daughter of Sir Richard Monnington, knt. and had issue, 1. John, who died before his father, and 2. Sir Thomas, knt. who succeeded to the property and mansion of Alterynnis. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir Gilbert Winston, knt. and had issue, Philip (or Richard), and David. He was a great benefactor to the monks of Dore abbey, and "forgave them great summes of monie which they ought him."† His elder son married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Philips, knt. and had issue Philip (or Richard), John and Margaret. Philip (or Richard), married Maud (or Margaret), daughter of Philip Vaughan, of Tyle-Glas, and had issue 1. Philip; 2. John; 3. David; 4. James, or Jenkin, and one daughter, Margaret.

Philip had issue, Philip, his son and heir, and David, who settled in Lincolnshire, and from whom descended the Earls of Exeter, and Salisbury. Philip married Elizabeth, daughter of — Wynston, and by his last will and testament, dated June 21, 1551, ordered his body to be interred in the church of St. Peter, in Walterston, and left to Elizabeth, his wife, the mansion house of Alterynnis, with the lands thereunto belonging, for life, and after her decease, to William, his son and heir, and his heirs for

* Holingshed.

† Powell's Wales, page 147.

ever; entailing his other lands in this county and Monmouthshire, on the said William, his son, remainder to Philip, his son, remainder to Ann and Alice, his daughters.

Dr. Powell dated his History of Wales "From my lodgings in London, the 25th of March, A. D. 1584," and he mentions that "at that daie William Sitsylt, or Cecil, esq. cosen-german to the Lord Burghley, removed by one degree onlie, is possessed of the foresaid house of Halterennes, in Ewyas land, as the heire male of the house of Sitsylts, and is descended of Philip Cecill, elder brother to David."

This William married Olive, daughter of Stephen Parry, and had issue, seven daughters, viz. Elizabeth, Jane, Margaret, Joan, Catherine, Matilda, and Ann. In their time, and probably for their benefit, the estate of Alteryannis was sold to a branch of the Delahays, of Peterchurch, of whom Bennett Delahay, esq. held it soon after the year 1720, and alienated it to the governors of Guy's hospital, London, paying them a reserved rent of sixty pounds per annum, under a lease for three lives, subject by covenant, to perpetual renewal at fixed fines. Under these conditions the governors of that charity continue to hold Alteryannis: and the lessees have since been Mr. Clarke, who married a Delahay, then the family of Lane, and now John Rogers, of Abergavenny, clerk, who purchased the lease, a few years since.

The estate of Alteryannis contains about four hundred and fifty acres: the mansion is now adapted to the purposes of a farm, but the old hall and parlour still remain with little variation. A very minute survey of the house and grounds was made A. D. 1647, by which it appears that the "great haule" was thirty feet long and twenty feet wide, having a communication at the upper

end with the great parlour, “a faier wainscott roome, usually employed for a dining roome.” In the windows were the arms of Cecil and of Delahay, in painted glass, and part of them still remain. The other rooms and chambers contained nothing worthy particular description.—Of the outbuildings, the dairy is thus noticed, “A verie convenient daie-house, seeled, not paved, with a stoninge table in the midst, whereon to order cheese, there being many good cheeses at that time, arguing good pasture and store of kine: but Mr. Delahay, the tenant, hath excellent meadowes of his owne free land nere adjoininge (the brooke or river Mynow being between), which add to the dairy.” “The oxehowse has standinge for cattle to the number of twelve oxen and twenty kine”—“The stable is a fair building, with convenient standinge for a duzen horses at leaste, with a *tallett* over the same—and lastly the old gatehouse stands at the first enterance into the green courte, haveinge two little chambers in the same over-head, where the husbandman and labourers do use to lodge.”

The situation of “the antient capitall howse or mannor place of Alterennis,” is accurately stated to be on the river or stream called Nan-Cravell, “which runneth close unto the wall of the howse on the west side, and into the river Monow on the south side, within a few yards of the gatehowse aforesaid; into which river Monow cometh the river Hundy also: soe that all three rivers meete close by the mannor howse on the south side thereof, being a pleasant, clere water, full of troutes, were there any order to preserve them from the anoyance of the otter and ill-demeaninge persons.”

The survey next proceeds to particularize the several pieces of land of which the property then consisted, and makes the whole amount to two hundred and twenty-seven acres and three quarters,

besides the site of the house, outbuildings, and garden. It is probable that the other lands stated to belong to the tenant Mr. Delahay, were afterwards purchased and added to the estate. The following observations are made on a field of ten acres :—" Below the grate fielde and next thereunto, is the longe meadowe, sided very irregular with the river Munowe, beinge not verie fatt ground as other meadowes, by reason when the currant overfloweth it (as often it doth), with such a swift streame, that it sweepeth awaie the firtilitie thereof. At the north end thereof there is ground gotten from Mr. Arnolds (of Llanihangel), and taken in by the river aforesaid, and laid to the said meadowe, neare about three quarters of an acre, scarcely to be distinguished from the said meadowe. And this meadowe again looseth ground in another place thereof, getting and looseinge all by the violent breaking out of the fierce waters in times of suddaine land floude, descending from the mountains : by reason whereof and for prevention of the same, it were meete that some cribs were sett for defending the bankes, for want of which the bankes are very much worne, &c."

Near the church of Walterston, a mound of earth has been raised in a conical form, to the height of about thirty feet ; the circumference at the base measures nearly as many yards ; and it is deeply ditched or moated round : similar elevations are found in various parts of this and other countries under different names. In this county they are called *tumps* (perhaps as an abbreviation of *tumulus*) ; in Wales they are sometimes denominated *tommins* ; in Oxford and Northamptonshires, *cops* ; in Stafford and Derbyshires, *lowes* ; in Cornwall, *burrows*, and in Ireland, *lawes*. In the Teutonic language they are stiled *broghs* ; and in the Saxon, *byrigs*.

The purposes to which these elevations have been originally applied, have also frequently varied. They have sometimes been raised as boundaries, when rural games and pastimes have been celebrated on them yearly to this day, in a manner not dissimilar to the ceremonies in use amongst the Romans, in honour of their God *Terminus*. Of this description perhaps was the *tump* at King's Caple, in this county, which will be noticed in the Collections for the hundred of Wormelow.

In other parts they were certainly sepulchral, and that from very ancient date.* Achilles is said to have raised a tumulus round the funeral pile of his friend Patroclus, which was one hundred feet in circumference.† That of Ninus, at Ninevah, according to Ctesias, was of most extraordinary dimensions. That of Hephestion, which was raised by Alexander the Great, is said to have cost twelve hundred talents.‡ So extravagant were the Greeks in this respect, that Plato proposed that no sepulchre should be made larger than five men could finish in as many days; nor a pillar larger than would contain four heroic verses; and several laws were made at Athens to restrain this vanity.§ Wormelow tump in the hundred of that name, and in the parish of Dewchurch, was probably of this description, and will be further noticed hereafter.

A third purpose to which these elevations were applied, was military; and such was the description of that remaining in the parish of Walterston, and now under consideration. In Wales, in Ireland, and in many other places or frontiers exposed to sudden warfare, this species of fortification frequently occurs. They were

* Borlase's History of Cornwall.

† Iliad 23.

‡ Justin: lib 12. c. 12.

§ Cic: de L. S. lib 2.

particularly in use amongst the ancient Britons, as a temporary resort and defence against the inroads of their enemies. They are generally situated in the vicinity of a mansion or village, and are thus concisely described by Mr. Richards, in his prize poem at Oxford, entitled "The Aboriginal Britons"*—

" O'er the deep trench an earthly mound arose,
To guard the sylvan town from beasts and foes."

Nor, in the mode of warfare then in use, would this be a contemptible fortification. The bill-hooks, in the hands of experienced warriors, and which, in the words of Sir William Temple, inflicted "the most ghastly and deplorable wounds," must have presented a formidable front, aided by an elevation difficult of access, and must often have retarded the progress of the invaders. These bill-hooks were a rude species of halberd, having two or three jags or hooks on the back part of the blade. They were formerly in use amongst the Spaniards and many other nations, and were occasionally applied to the purpose of dismounting cavalry. Reed's edition of Shakspeare, gives a wooden engraving of a watchman armed with this weapon,† which the Britons termed "Bilwg a pîg yn ei bon." In the year 1682, Thomas Powell, a prisoner in the county jail at Brecknock, composed a song in honour of "Meistr Harri Vychan" (Mr. H. Vaughan), whose heroism, and whose bill-hooks (which he termed "filigau big-y-mon,") he celebrated in verses, of which the following is a specimen:

" *Medd y bardd.*—Mam Meistr Harri
Oed verch Miles y Parry,
Tyfeddes wych trosti ni glywson
Ar Scudmore ag Ewyas,

* 3 Octavo, Oxford, 1807.

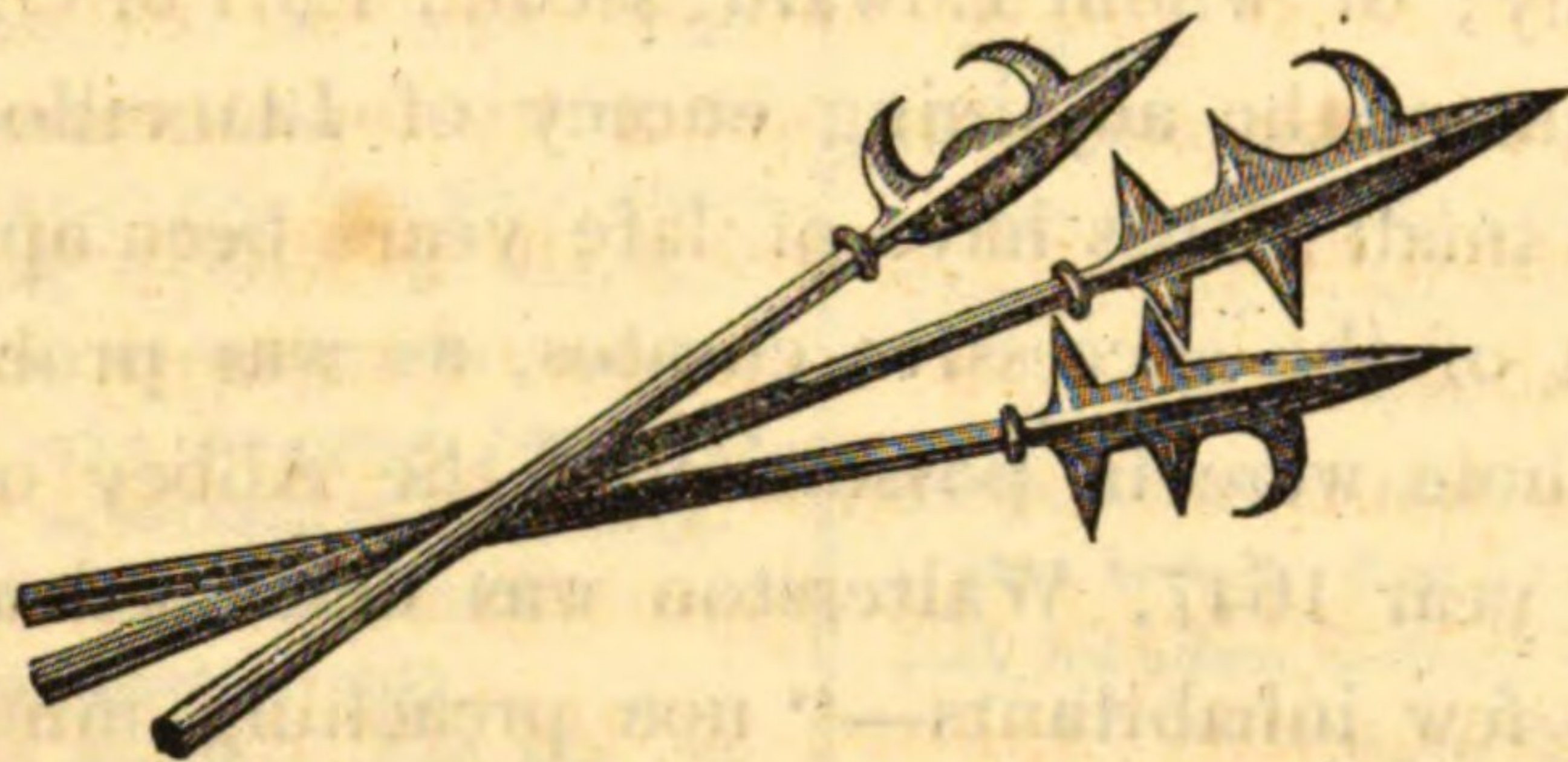
† Notes on "Much Ado about Nothing."

Or Milbourn y cafas ;
On'd tyna'r priodas lle decthon."

i. e.

"*Poet.*—Mr. Harry's mother
Was a daughter of Miles Parry,
Quite a notable heiress, we have heard,
Of the lands of Scudamore and Ewyas,
From the Milbournes she brought them :
Is not that the marriage from whence they came ?"

The principal houses throughout the hundred of Ewyas Lacy were anciently provided with some of these bill-hooks: they are still to be seen in the parish of St. Margaret's, and are of the following forms:



Nor are these the only military vestiges to be found in this vicinity: on an eminence about half a mile east from the church of Walterston, is a circular entrenchment, double ditched towards Wales, and having a single fosse in the opposite direction. It occupies about three acres of land, retains its original form, and is situated on the estate of Alterynnis. Adjoining it, is the site of a chapel, supposed to have been dedicated to St. Ailworth, and to have borne his name. Taylor, in his map of the county, has placed such a chapel on the tumulus before described, but no vestige of it remains there, nor does it appear probable that an additional place of worship should have been erected within a few yards of the church. The area of the chapel near the camp, is of small

dimensions, and undisturbed. A large stone, having a cross inscribed on it, and probably denoting the interment of a Roman Catholic, has lately been removed from hence, but a venerable yew tree still remains to corroborate the sacred purpose of the building.

ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT.

The tithes of Walterston anciently belonged to the Abbey of Llanthony, and at its suppression were purchased by Nicholas Arnold, of Llanihangel, esq. whose descendant sold them to the Harley family; of whom Edward, second Earl of Oxford, re-sold them to augment the adjoining curacy of Llancillo, in the year 1726. The small tithes have of late years been applied towards the support of the successive curates, as was probably the case when the whole were in possession of the Abbey of Llanthony. But in the year 1647, Walterston was described as a spacious parish with few inhabitants—"noe preaching ministry, only a poore curate, haveinge, but £.4 per annum standing wages, and noe other proffitts but what he labours for in teachinge a schoole in the same parrish, and supplyeing sometimes other churches."* No register appears to have been kept until the year 1786.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and comprises a nave, chancel, and wooden cupola with two bells. Near the south door are the base and six feet of the shaft of an ancient stone cross, as described in Rowleston and other places. In the eastern wall of the porch was the *lavacrum* for holy water, under a trefoil arch: the part projecting from the wall has been destroyed. Some

* MS. Survey of Alteryannis, &c.

remains of the fret or carved work, noticed in the rood loft of St. Margaret's, &c. are observable on the lower part of the front of the gallery; and in the chancel are these inscriptions:—

North Wall.

Christian, relict of James Eversham, esq.
died Dec. 19, 1775, aged 72.

Arms.—*Azure*, on a bend *or*, three Moor's
heads side-faced, coupé, *sable*.

In memory of Rev. Philip Price, late vicar
of this parish. He was a Christian; a sincere
friend in private, and an honest man
in public life; and ever faithful to his
functions. He died April 6, 1786, aged 51.

In memory of a sincerely honest man, Philip
Price, late minister of this parish. That
flattery has no share in thus blazoning his
epitaph, the credit and reputation which
he had generally acquired, can truly witness.
He lived uprightly; he wronged
no man; but like the good Samaritan
was ever ready to befriend his neighbour.

He was born Nov. 20, 1763.

And died March 4, 1803.

Mary, his infant daughter, died Feb. 20,
1800.

Nicholas, his son, died July 25, 1775, aged 14.

Ann, his wife, died May 20, 1778, aged 45.

On Flat Stones.

Ann, wife of Nicholas Hopkins, and mother
in law of the Rev. Mr. Price, died May
25, 1777, aged 90.

Ann, wife of — Delahay, gent. died Oct.
8, 1689.

Thomas Delahay, esq. died Sept. 6, 1712,
aged 63.

Jane, his wife, died Oct. 15, 1721, aged 79.

Thomas Delahay, esq. died May 26, 1724,
aged 44.

Helen, daughter of Thomas Delahay, and
Jane his wife, died Oct. 20, 1709.

Thomas Addis, gent. died Aug. 21, 1719.

South Wall of Church.

Aaron, infant son of John Rogers, clerk, and
Jane his wife, died June 1, 1803.

Joel, his infant brother, died Oct. 26, 1806.

North Wall.

Blanch, wife of William Parry, died March
31, 1777, aged 59.

Of two initial letters, the second only remains on a flat stone
near the church door, thus—

* W.

Deceased August, 1686.

In addition to these parishes, the hundred of Ewyas Lacy includes the three townships of TREWIN, the BWLCH, and the FUTHOG. Of these, Trewin forms part of the parish of Cwmyoye, in the county of Monmouth, and is a member or subordinate manor of the great honour of Ewyas Lacy. The etymology of

the name implies in the British language, “ the place of making peace,” and probably alludes to a cessation of hostilities agreed on there between some adverse chiefs. The mansion is situated half a mile south-west from Alterynnis, and both were held by the Delahay family, at the beginning of last century ; soon after which an avenue of firs was planted from the one house to the other, and part of them still remain. The Delahays held Trewin of the lords of Ewyas Lacy, by the yearly rent of fifteen pence, suit of court, and five shillings for *horngeld*,* and five shillings for *mises*,† whensoever they shall happen. After the Delahays, Trewin belonged to the Evershams, whose sole heiress married Jeremiah Rozier, esq. the present proprietor. A small chapel here was dedicated to St. Martin: the tithes belonged to Llanthony, and now form an augmentation to Llancillo curacy.

The BWLCH is a second township, forming part of this hundred. The name describes its situation, in the “ Gap or Notch of the Hills,” and the whole is included in the manor of Ewyas Lacy : the tithes are annexed to the curacy of Llancillo, and formerly belonged to Llanthony Abbey.

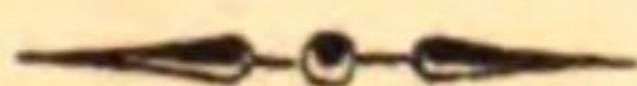
The FUTHOE is also a township in this hundred, and part of Ewyas Lacy manor. It is wholly surrounded by the mountains of Monmouthshire, and contains nothing worthy particular notice. The tithes form an augmentation to Cwmyoye. Like many parts of Wales, this hundred consists of a series of hills and dales, extending nearly from north to south, and resembling in its general character, the undulated surface of a sea “ rolling mountains high.”

* A payment for horned beasts in a forest.

† *Mises* generally (as here), signify law expenses in personal actions : sometimes also they imply customary gifts from the Welsh to a Prince on his accession.

APPENDIX

TO BROXASH HUNDRED.



BROMYARD.—In Pope Nicholas' taxation, A. D. 1296, are these entries; "Portio Magistri Petri de Salinis, *Canonici* de Bromyard, 30 mare: decima, 3 mare: Portio Domini Poncii in eâdem 25 mare: decima 2½ mare. Portio Magistri de Sevenak, 12 mare: decima 16 sol."—Page 83.

THORNBURY.—*Additions to the life of the Earl of Essex.* Lord Chancellor Bacon was first noticed by the Earl, whilst pursuing his studies at Gray's-Inn. Essex, who could distinguish merit, and passionately loved it, entered into an intimate friendship with Bacon, and zealously attempted to procure for him the office of Solicitor to the Queen. But being baffled in the attempt, Essex presented his friend with land then worth £1800. These generous acts were, however, ill repaid; for after the death of Essex, the people were so clamorous even against the Queen herself, that it was deemed necessary to vindicate the conduct of the administration: the ungracious task of aspersing his deceased benefactor, was allotted to and performed by Bacon, who in return attracted universal censure, and even his life was supposed to be in danger. Perhaps from this circumstance it was found inexpedient to give any further preferment to Bacon in this reign, beyond a place in the Star Chamber, the reversion of which had been promised to him many years before.—Mr Wood, in his *Fasti Oxonienses*, thus notices the "Apologie of the Earl of Essex.:" "This piece had such esteem among men, that they thought, nothing could be more honourably uttered, nor more to the writers praise, so far as belongs to a noble orator." The authors of the *Biograph: Britan:* refer in a note to the Apology, but make no quotations from it. It is not noticed in Herbert's *History of Printing*; but it appears by the catalogue of printed books in the British Museum, to have been first published in London, by Richard Bradock, A. D. 1603. It was also translated into the Dutch language, and printed at Middlebourg in the same year: the title states that it was written A. D. 1598. The English edition was possibly suppressed, but a MS. copy is still in the Museum, as well as amongst the Hom Lacy papers.—The mansion of Northwood, or Netherwood, the birth place of this first Robert Earl of Essex, gave birth also to the last Roger Mortimer, Earl of March.

WITHINGTON.—*Additions to the Account of Mr. Brome.* In the Bodleian Library, Oxford, is a large collection of original letters from Mr. B. to the principal scholars and antiquaries of his time.* The following is an extract from one, dated Ewithington, June 23, 1733, and relates to an edition of Chaucer then publishing: It is thus addressed, "These for Mr. Thomas Rawlins, at Pophills, Warwickshire; to be left at John Sturdys, at Wixford Bridge." "— I find you are a very curious person (*inter alia*), about books, for I see your name among Mr. Hearn's subscribers; and if your acquaintance be much among the litterati, as I suppose it is, you may do me a kindness. One Mr. Urry, student of Christ

* Rawlinson, 329.

Church, was engaged to publish a new edition of Chaucer, with a glossary, &c. Before he had finished it, he dyes and leaves me executor, with an intention that some of the profits arising from the impression, should goe towards building the new Quadrangle. The College, myself, and Mr. Lintot, the bookseller, enter into a tripartite agreement upon these terms: The College and myself to get the copy of Chaucer with prefaces, indexes, glossary, &c. for Mr. Lintot. Mr. L. to be at the expense of printing and paper, and the copies to be divided in three parts between us. The College oblige scholars upon their entrance to take off a copy and by their acquaintance dispose of their store: Mr. Lintot is in the way of business and sells off his; but mine lye upon hand, so that I am like to be a great sufferer. By our articles we are not to sell a copy under the subscription price, which is, large paper 50 shillings, small paper 30 shillings, in sheets. The book is adorned with copper plates before each tale. If any friend of yours wants such a book, I can supply him in London, but by no means I would have you importunate with any person upon my account. The curious may perhaps as well oblige himself as me.

Yours, &c. &c. W. BROME."

A second letter on the same subject, is dated Feb. 8, 1734: it states, "So the College and myself employed one Mr. Dart, a noted author and editor, to write Chaucer's life—and one Mr. Timothy Thomas, formerly a student of Christ Church, and now rector of Presteigne, in Radnorshire, to finish a text, and write a preface and glossary, &c."

Another letter acknowledges the receipt of one from Mr. Rawlins, in which it is recommended to Mr. Philips, "to sort the different apples and grind them separately, instead of mixing the several kinds." Mr. Brome, in reply, admits the method to be good, but states, that as they make two hundred hogsheads of cyder from a full crop, they have not leisure nor opportunity to practise it." Mr. Apperley, now of Withington, has long adopted with complete success, the mode recommended, and does not mix the liquors until the following spring.



Duncumb, John,

Collections towards the history and antiquities of the county of Hereford

Bd.: 2,1

Hereford 1812

4 Brit. 35 p-2,1

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